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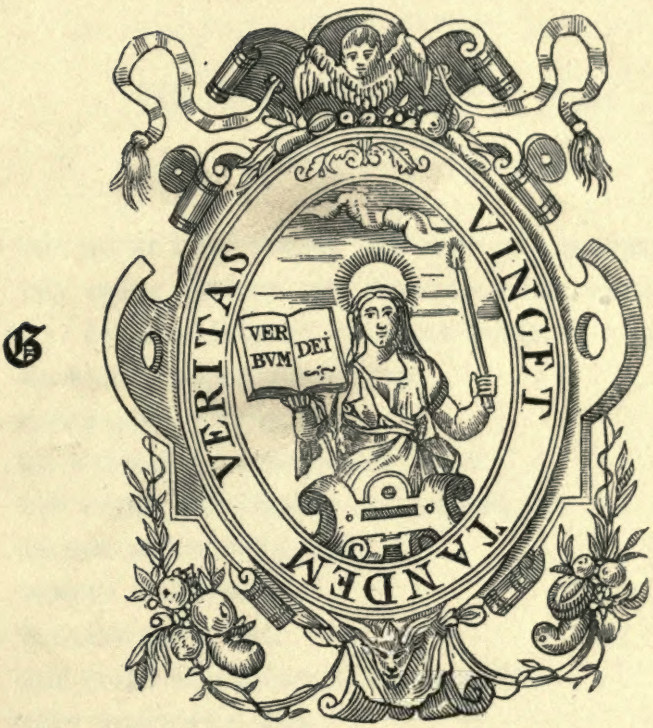
The Palice of Honour.

By

Gawyn Douglas,

Bishop of Dunkeld.

UNIV. OF CALIFORNIA



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TO

SIR WALTER SCOTT, BART.

OF ABBOTSFORD,

AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF

The Bannatyne Club,

THIS EDITION OF THE

PALICE OF HONOUR,

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

AND

PRESENTED

BY

JOHN GARDINER KINNEAR.

JANUARY,
M.DCCC.XXVII.

THE PALICE OF HONOUR, the earliest of the original works of Gawin Douglas, Bishop of Dunkeld, was composed about the year 1501, the twenty-seventh of the Author's life, and twelve years before his translation of Virgil's Æneis, 'into Scottish Meter,' was completed.[1]

The present edition of this Poem is a fac-simile of that printed at Edinburgh by John Ros, for Henry Charteris, in 1579—the rarity of which is so great, that I believe it would be difficult to find any other copies than those preserved in the Libraries of the University of Edinburgh, and of the Faculty of Advocates; the former of which was presented to his *Alma Mater*, by William Drummond of Hawthornden, in 1626.

Of the earlier edition, printed at London by William Copland, about the year 1553, a fac-simile of the title is given on the next leaf, and is followed by a specification of the various readings. At the Roxburghe sale, a copy

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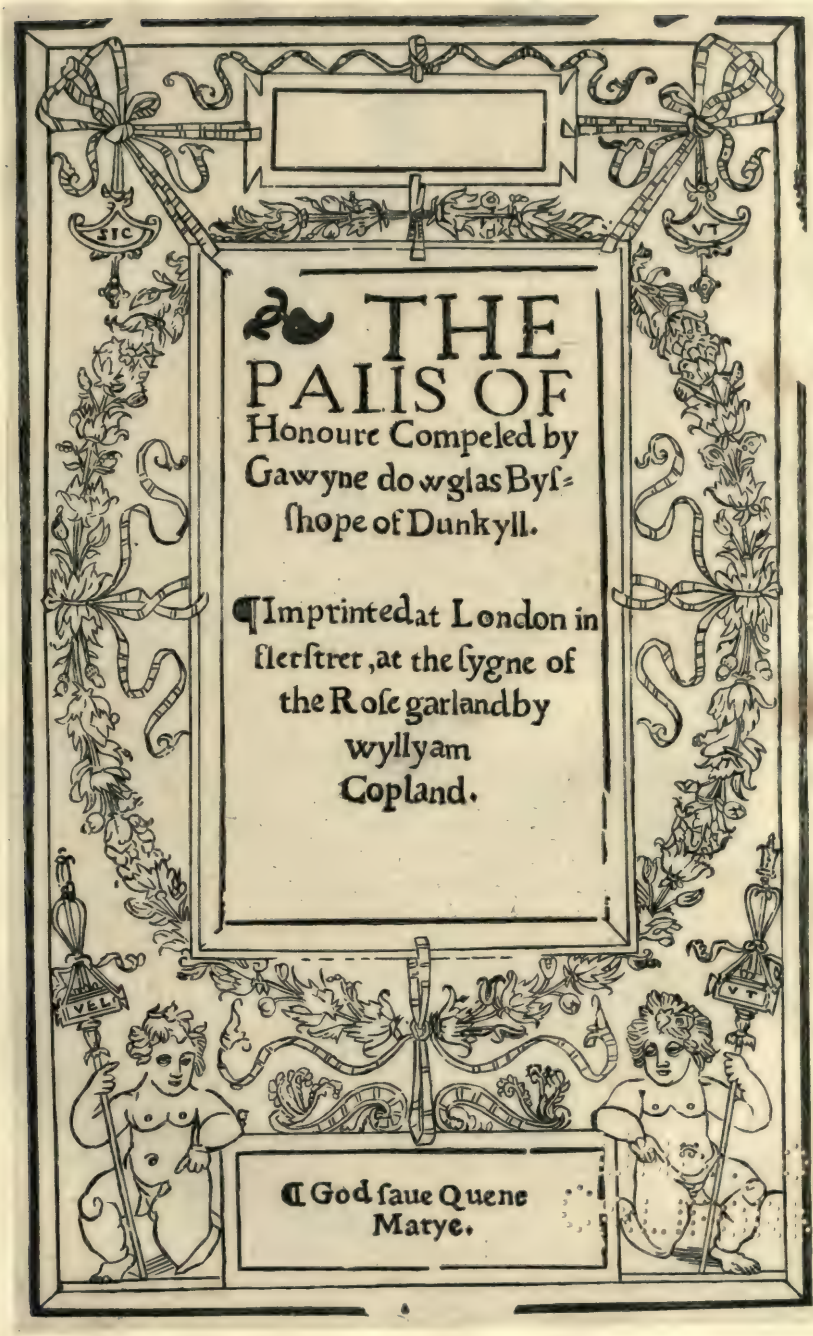
[1] "Completit was this werk Virgilliane
"Apoun the feist of Marye Magdalane:
"Fra Christis birth the date wha list to here,
"ANE THOUSAND FYVE HUNDRETH AND THRETTENE ZERE."
GAWIN DOUGLAS.

of this edition, which is also extremely rare, brought the sum of twenty guineas.

These, which are both in quarto, are the only editions which have yet been discovered of this Poem, although there appear to have been other and earlier impressions; for the publisher of the Edinburgh edition, in 1579, states, that "the divers impressiones befoir imprentid "of this notabill werk have bene altogidder faultie and "corupt, not onlie that quhilk has bene imprentid at "London, but also the copyis set furth of auld amangis "our selfis."

The Palice of Honour will be found reprinted in Pinkerton's Scotish Poems; and in the "Select Works of Gawin Douglas," printed at Perth in 1787; to the latter of which a Life of the Author is annexed by the Rev. James Scott. An Account of the Life and Writings of Bishop Douglas, has been also given by Bishop Sage, by Dr George Mackenzie, and Dr David Irving.

I am happy to have this opportunity of returning my thanks to James Chalmers, Esq., for the loan of a very fine copy of Copland's edition of the Palice of Honour, from the library of his late uncle, George Chalmers, Esq.



THE PALIS OF Honoure Compeled by Gawyne dowglas Byſſhope of Dunkyll.

¶ Imprinted at London in flete ſtret, at the ſygne of the Roſe garland by wyllyam Copland.

¶ God ſaue Quene Marye.

UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

COLLATION

OF THE EARLIER EDITIONS OF

THE PALICE OF HONOUR.

The London edition of The Palis of Honour is printed uniformly with the Translation of Virgil's Æneis, by Bishop Douglas, which has the following title, within the same ornamental border, of which a fac-simile is given on the foregoing leaf.

"The xiii. Bukes of Eneados o the famose Poete Virgill, Translatet out of Latyne verses into Scottish metir, bi the Reuerend Father in God, Mayster Gawin Douglas Bishop of Dunkel, & vnkil to the Erle of Angus. Euery buke hauing hys perticular Prologe. Imprinted at Londō 1553." 4to.

In collating the two early editions of the Palace of Honour, the following is an enumeration of the principal variations; the words of the present text being first quoted, followed by the corresponding words of the London edition.

The Prologue. Stanza I, line 3. the—be. II. 6. fluor maist fragrant —flewour maist fragrant. III. 3. Abone—Aboue. 7. Echo.—eccon. V. 3. reserue—preserue. VII. 3. Sol—Soyl; stone—stunt. XI. 9. pulsis—puncys. XII. 2. desie—dasyt; vary—veray. XIII. 3. heiring—hetis. XIV. 4. sweuen— slewen. 9. Visioun—auision. Finis Prologi—Finis.

Page 1, line 3. bad nystie—bad nystee. 4. thy—thyn. 6. rymis—ranys. 8. thir—their. 18. swappis—skauppis.

Page 2, line 10. dark as Rock—dyrk as royk.

Page 3, line 5. lowis—louys. 10. surelie zis—suythly zys. 11. ze—za. 14. Uer—veyr. 17. my—myn. 21. affrayit—afferyt.

Page 4, line 1. faitis—feitis; forwayit—foruayt. 8. all—four.

Page 5, line 3. subtell menis—suttell menys. 5. zee—za. 10. Circes—Circis. 19. Pithagoras—Picthagoras. 21. Sidrach—Sidrag. 29. veyage—viage.

Page 6, line 11. into—in tyll. 21. ouirthort—ouerwhort. 26. haue bene —bene. 29. to—tyll.

Page 7, line 10. Imagining feill syse—Imagynand feil lyse. 23. or—and of. 29. befoir—tofore.

Page 8, line 21. Effyom—Effygyn. 25. skatterit—skattryt. 26. batterit—battryt. 28. swatterit—swattryt. 29. tatterit—tattryt.

Page 9, line 6. litargie—letergy. 9. North eist—norhest. 11. sounding —soundis. 22. Inwith—Inoth. 29. Inwith—Inoth.

Page 10, line 6. befoir—tofore; or—and. 10. Ane—A.

Page 11, line 5. dynnit—dymmit. 7. lichtlie—lychily. 11. grene—greni. 13. Lymnaris—lymnuris. 14. Ihote—I hote. 27. claith—plate. 28. thir—thair.

Page 12, line 7. ordours—ordour.

Page 13, line 1. or—nor. 6. wonder—wondryt; fast in—in. 20. zit—yf. 29. SEQUE, ALTERA—Sesque altra.

Page 14, line 2. soung—songin. 5. countering—conturyng. 15. Saul—Kyng Saul. 23. greik—gekgo.

Page 15, line 2. Joint—Juynt. 9. ouirbrouderit—or brounuert. 15. veluot—veluos. 24. luifsum—lusum.

Page 16, line 22. France—Fare. 27. Deianira—Dyonera.

Page 17, line 1. Tristram—Trastram. 6. miak—make. 8. bound with hart—boynd with fyrm hart.

Page 18, line 1. Inuolupit in syte—nu oluit in dispyte. 5. fact—fait. 7. Ingraue—In graue. 9. dois—doith. 26. sang—sayng. 30. committand —conmittand.

Page 19, line 1. & greit—in greif. 6. girnand—grinand. 23. accusen—accusyng.

Page 20, line 20. pleis it—plesyt. 26. and aucht—aucht.

Page 21, line 18. disturbis—distrublys. 23. behest—beheft.

Page 22, line 7. die—be. 12. mischaip—myssape. 22. how—quhome. 26. Nabuchodonosor—Nabugodonosore.

Page 23, line 9. All haillelie—Alhalely. 13. To—Lo. 16. that quhilk—quhilk that. 20. Intercessioun—Intercion. 27. luik—lusty.

Page 24, line 2. Scripture—Scipture. 18. *This line is omitted in the Edinburgh edition*, 1579.

Page 25, line 1. thay Ladyis—thair layis. 2. na—na way. 9. greit—gastly. 10. that—the; new—now. 11. thair—the. 15. knawledge—knawlagis. 17 Court—rout; or meit—our mate. 20. Poet—polit; singand—sang. 25. folk—folkis. 27. of—all of.

Page 26, line 7. Mother of the Musis—the morthyr of musis. 11. Euerilk oulk day,—Euterpe eik quhilk. 14. Chronikill dois Imprent—cronikillis doith impren. 20. sing, daunce,—sing, play, daunce. 24. sister with croun—and sister schene. 29. Hir—The.

Page 27, line 1. Nobill—nobillis. 8. fair—Phanee. 14. befoir—afore. 16. befoir—tofore. 17. spreit—brest. 22. Greik—grew. 26. Dictes—Ditis. 27. and Persius—Persius.

Page 28, line 1. Cato—Caton. 2. Gaulteir—Galterus. 7. the Vale—Vale. 10. Horace—Orace. 11. Clerk—clerkis. 12. Bocchas—Bocace. 14. ar—is. 15. saw I thair—thare I saw. 16. Geffray—Goffryd. 22. culd—couth. 30. my—the.

Page 29, line 1. thir samin—sammyn thir. 6. not—as. 9. quhat was caus of hir thair—wes the cause thair of hir. 10. zone bysning schew—that bysning schrew. 13. had—hes. 15. laitlie—laithly; and subtell—subtelle. 16. and—on. 17. velanie—walloway. 18. our—my. 21. Rebald Rennigait—rebell renygate. 26. To sic as he to mak conter pleid—All out than wes his sclander or sich plede. 27. honour chekmait—renown chak mate. 28. sa wide zour fame—zour fame so wyd.

Page 30, line 4. efter—oft. 5. friwoll—frewel. 6. his—this. 9. befoir—afore. 13. befoir—afore. 14. strait—starte. 16. not be—be not. 22. Ane vennome is rather and—No woman is, rather. 28. haue—serue.

Page 31, line 3. say—sa. 12. releuit—releschit. 18. freindschip—freudschip. 20. quhilk—quhilkis. 23. alswyith—als swyth. 25. deliuerit—preseruit. 26. Releuit—Releschit.

Page 32, line 2. but dispair—lait and air. 4. In lestand blis, to remane and repair—Quhair thou in ioy and plesour may repair. 6. pietie disseuerit—peace, dissouerit. 9. or—and. 11. of—with. 12. delicait—dilligat. 14. thow—now. 17. perfite—purifyit. 20. guerdoun—gard. 23. *This line is omitted in the Edinburgh edition,* 1579. 27. companioun—campion.

Page 33, line 2. ane Instant—Instant 13. reuerence—reuence. 19. wend—passe.

Page 34, line 8. heicht—heich. 9. into Egypt—in till Egypt; into Italie.—in Italie. 11. hie Montanes—Montanes; of Germanie—of all Germanie. 21. Tinolus—Tmolus.

Page 35, line 27. well—strand.

Page 36, line 6. not—never. 13. stanerie—sterny.

Page 37, line 5. Royall—rial. 10. Ladyis—musis. 11. deissis—deace. 14. Royall—ryall. 25. fatis—fetis. 29. schew—tald.

Page 39, line 18. sawin—sammyn. 20. Damascene—Damastene. 29. this —that.

Page 40, line 27. remembrance—rememorance.

Page 41, line 20. The ascence—Ascens.

Page 42, line 3. I—we. 7. how—hol. 8. bulling—bulnyng. 28. drownit—drynt; Loch—loth.

Page 43, line 15. place—palyce. 24. bairdin—boldyn. 26. schipis—schip. 28. swa—the. 29. did—to.

Page 44, line 5. Fir tre—firre. 6. a Takill—Takill. 8. drownit, part —drownit and part. 12. drownit—drint. 16. seis—seyst.

Page 45, line 6. thow sall—salt thou. 12. far—sa far. 14. on—in. 18. alkin—euery. 20. alkin—alkynde. 27. sair—fare.

Page 46, line 3. Royall—riall. 5. Thanis—fanys. 11. Jalme—Jalmys. 14. Befoir—Tofore. 17. The—That. 22. vaikis—wakis.

Page 47, line 1. beildit—beild; Royall—riall. 9. now thow seis—thow seyst. 13. ane Throne—a trone. 18. Stude emeraut stages twelf, grene precious greis—Twelf amarant stagis stude, twelf grene precious greis. 20. Wp standand—Sustenttand; beforne—aforne. 27. vtter—vthir. 29. woundit —wound.

Page 48, line 2. royall—riall. 3. and precious—precious. 8. specktakill—quent spectakill. 10. mony—ful mony. 14. creatiounis—creation. 22. Ten—Twelf; thair—tair. 24. drownit—drynt.

Page 49, line 1. Of—In. 11. Anoyntit—Anoynt. 16. michtie—douchty. 19. a stound—astond. 21. Banayas—Bananyas.

Page 50, line 1. helis—hely. 11. Esras—Esdras. 24. wombe—wame. 28. this—the.

Page 51, line 1. tyranlie he Jowrie all—tyrand lyk all Jowrye he. 2. ane Knichtlie—Knichtlie. 4. brocht—broh. 11. Destroyit was—Wes distroyit. 19. hidder—thidder. 24. Pirithous—Pyrotheus; sponsage—spousage.

Page 52, line 3. Royall—rial. 6. thair—that. 7. Ypsiphile—Ysiphile. 8. at—to. 17. Nauie—nauyn. 28. Quhill—Quhilk.

Page 53, line 15. Micht—mych. 25. greit—huge. 27. landis—land. 28. Turnus—Tarnus.

Page 54, line 11. Betwene—Atwene. 14. Betwene thir—Atwene thair. 20. Marcus Curtius—Quincyus. 21. the fyrie—fyrie.

Page 55, line 2. sine to—to; the—all the. 7. betwene—atwine. 20. Newand—Mewand. *The very curious Stanza beginning*, I saw Raf Coilzear, *is omitted in the London Edition by Copland.*

Page 56, line 7. Benytas—bonitas. 11. Nutemug—Nutmog. 13. Benytas—Bonytas. 26. Scho—I.

Page 57, line 3. all—ay. 6. suddanelie—suddadly. 15. scho—tho. 17. quod—sayd.

Page 58, line 6. to—in to. 10. birnand—brynnand. 11. That Garitour tho—the garatour; vnto—tho to. 12. that—the. 16. minde is—mindis. 22. dois serue—disseruys. 23. the—is the.

Page 59, line 7. to greif—grief. 11. fals—a fals. 14. listin commit—lyst committing.

Page 60, line 6. was—of. 15. twane—wane. 17. Ingraue—ingarf. 21. Driada—Dorida. 27. Epistillis—episciclis. 28. portrait—proturyt. 29. motiounis—montionis.

Page 61, line 1. Eclipsis—Eclipse. 2. I, and mony—I mony. 3. all lustie—ll luasty. 9. and—ann. 26. Swa—Fra. 28. surelie as me—soithla as my.

Page 62, line 3. pachit—paithit. 6. I—a. 10. Importurait—Iuporturat. 11. hie—sle. 21. not—ne.

Page 63, line 3. Royall—Rial. 7. atanis atonys. 8. smote—smate. 9. blancht—blaucht. 14. Upheld—Held vp. 17. that—my. 22. was—is. 24. sa—a sa. 25. Unto—On to.

Page 64, line 1. worthin—wordyn. 2. Lang eir me thocht y^{u}—Langere (me thocht) how. 9. mad—malt. 10. na mair (quod scho)—(quod scho) na mare. 12. surelie—suythly. 16. Posterne—postrum. 17. passage—passagis. 18. that—the. 22. Uerteouslie—Victoriusly. 24. fundin—fuddyn; mane—name. 28. King—ryng. 29. gouerning—honoring.

Page 65, line 1. Quhilk is—Quhilkis. 8. warldis—warldly. 20. Fra thay be gane, let—Frathay began, late. 28. can—ma.

Page 66, line 2. puissand—pyssand. 7. lestand honour—honour lestand. 22. Hippolita—Ypolytha. 23. Penthessilea, Medea, Zenobia—Pantyssale, Medus, Cenobia.

Page 68, line 6. flouris—colouris. 8. and—for. 13. Inueronit—Inuenoryt. 18. vs—we. 22. passage—passagis.

Page 69, line 9. swemit—swounyt. 13. Earth—garth. 27. of—hf.

Page 70, line 2. kind—kend. 3. quhome—quhan. 5. meikill—mychе; deuise—deuise, &c. 26. The Author, &c.—The Auctor direkit his buke to the rycht nobill Prynce, James the ferd Kyng of Scottis.

Page 71, line 21. the—tha. 24. the—tha. 26. the—tha. 27. the—tha, &c. *After* Finis (*on Sign K* 4.) *is this Colophon*

¶Imprinted at London in Fletestrete at the sygne of the Rose garland, by Wyllyam Copland.

The London edition by Copland, contains various marginal notes, which are not found in the Edinburgh edition of this poem. In order the more readily to ascertain the particular verses to which the notes refer, the page and the first words of the Stanza are here given, in Italic letters.

Page 2. *And not but caus.* A discription of the inconstance of fortune. 3. *Of Ladyis fair.* The quen of Sapyence wyth hyr court. 4. *And as the rout.* Craftye synone and false Architefel. 5. *Quhilks groundit ar.* Wyse and lerned men. 6. *Richt sa.* Architefel confessis hys owne craftenes, deceyt, and abused wit. 6. *First into Troy.* Sinons craftines. 7. *Thus wretchitlie,* line 8. Feare. 10. *Sa dulce.* A sorowful harte can not be mery. 10. *And murnand thus,* line 4. Heuinlye harmonye. 11. *Proceidand furth.* Godly apparell. 12. *Amid the chair.* Venus hyr court. 13. *I wonder sair,* line 5. Blynd Cupyd. 13. *Accompanyit.* Musyke. 15. *Thair riche,* line 9. Mars. 16. *Thair was.* Louers. 17. *Constranit hart.* A ballet of inconstant loue. 19. *Enthronit sat.* The Auctor accused. 20. *He demandit.* Answer. 20. *Inclynand law.* Appellationem. 21. *I zow beseik,* line 7. A thretnyng. 23. *To thus.* Consolation. 24. *With lawreir.* Poetis. 26. *And nixt her sine.* The nyne muses. 27. *The suddane,* line 8. Homer. 27. *Thair was the greit.* Virgil & other latin poetis. 28. *Sa greit ane preis.* Chauser & other Englyshe and Scottishe Poetis. 29. *Sister* (*said scho.*) Venus complaint. 30. *I will* (*said scho.*) Mercy becumys all men & specily gentyl-wemen. 31. *Unwemmit wit.* A ballat for Venus plesour. 34. *Throw countreis seir.* The auctours vyage. 37. *Swa finallie.* The gates. 37. *With Lawrere.* Valiant knightis. 39. *Uprais.* Poetis. 41. *Ze musis.* Inuocation. 42. *To me thou art.* Evyl people punyshet. 44. *Tho at.* Faythles peopill. 45. *Still in the sessoun.* The discription of the palace. 47. *Amid ane Throne,* line 9. Venus mirrour. 48. *Abraham.* A lang catathaloge of nobyl men and wemen both of scriptur & gentyll stories. 49. *Of Salomon.* Salomon. 51. *The faithful.* Faythfull & constent women. 54. *Rome saw I,* line 8. Chast Lucretia. 54. *The Punik,* line 6. The constancye of Marcus Regulus. 56. *The Nigromansie.* Nigramansye. 57. *Tuitchand this buik.* By thys boke he menis Virgil,—line 6. The Auctorys conclution of Venus morour. 57. *Scho me conuoyit.* The Palice of honour is patent for honest vertuus men, an not for vicius fals & craftye pepyll. 58. *Fast climmand vp,* line 8. Falsehed the moder of al vice. 58. *That Garitour,* line 8. Patience. 58. *The michtie Prince.* The discription of the Prince of hie honore, wyth his Palys & Court Charity Constance Liberalite Innocens Deuotyon.

59. *His Comptrollar.* Discretion Humanite Trew relation peace temperance Humilitie discypline mercye. 59. *His Chancelair.* Conscience iustyce prudence diligens clene lyuyng. 59. *Gude hope remanis.* Hope Piety Fortitud Veryte. 60. *Thair was the eirth,* line 5. Astronami. 65. *Behald* (*said scho.*) Al warldly glorye is bot a dreame. 65. *For vertew is a thing.* A comendation of vertue quhilk is the way to honour and not riches or hie blud. 66. *The strangest Sampsoun.* Exemplis of vertuus men & women. 67. *Quhilks be wilfull.* Vicious people punyshed Inuye Pryde Ignorance Disseyt. 67. *And Nobillis cummin.* Dissate & craftynes ar haldyn wisdome now a dayes verite & iustice is callyt simplycitye & folyshnes. 69. *Quhat throw the birdis.* The Author returnes frome his dreame to him self agane. 69. *O hie Honour.* A ballad in the commendation of honour & verteu.

The following typographical errors which occur in the Edinburgh edition, 1579, have been corrected in this reprint. Prologue page 3, line 22. rhe—*corrected to* the. Page 2, l. 22. chis—this. 3, l. 11. wisl—wis. 7, l. 28. for thy—forthy. 10, l. 21. mnrnand—murnand. 16, l. 20. Wofnll—Wofull. l. 25. Thaie—Thair. l. 29. Trastram—Tristram. 18, l. 26. lang—sang. 19, l. 3. bow—bowre. 20, l. 22. Noe—Not. 21, l. 8. Jngdement—Jugement. 24, l. 27. Aconius—Acontius. Cydiype—Cydippe. 28, l. 7. vale—Vale. 35, l. 14. Ethua—Ethna. 39, l. 15. anoyit—anoynt. 40, l. 15. snld—suld. 43, l. 4. cousaue—consaue. 44, l. 18. stace—state. 51. l. 3. The—that. l. 24. Pirichons—Pirithons. 63, l. 11. Womcnting—Womenting. 64, l. 3. grenit—greuit.

A few trivial errors, discovered since the sheets of this reprint went to press, may be here pointed out. Page 7, l. 3. haur err—for haue. 10, l. 5. breame—dreame. 11, l. 19. os—of. 15. l. 6. piteous—pieteous. 27, l. 17. aud—and.

Heir beginnis

ane Treatise callit the PALICE of HONOVR, Compylit be M. GAWINE DOWGLAS Bischop of Dunkeld.



I R

Imprentit at Edinburgh be Iohne Ros, for Henrie Charteris. Anno. 1579.

CVM PRIVILEGIO REGALI

TO THE REIDAR.

QVHEN vve had ſene and consideritt the diuers Impressiones befoir Imprentit of this Notabill werk, to haue bene altogidder faultie and corrupt: not onlie that quhilk hes bene Imprentit at London, bot also the Copyis set furth of auld amangis our selfis: We haue thocht gude to tak sum panes and trawellis to haue the samin mair commodiously and correctly set furth: to the Intent, that the beneuolent Reidar may haue the mair delyte and plesure in reiding, and the mair frute in perusing, this plesand and delectabill werk.

THE PROLOGVE.

QVHEN paill Aurora, with face lamentabill
Hir Russat Mantill borderit all with Sabill,
Lappit about the heuinly Circumstance
The tender bed and Arres honorabill
Of Flora Quene till floures amiabill.
In May I rais to do my obseruance,
And enterit in a Gardyne of plesance
With Sol depaint, as Paradice amiabill
And blisfull bewis, with blomed varyance.

¶Sa craftely Dame Flora had ouirfret
Hir heuinly bed, powderit with mony a set
Of Ruby, Topas, Perle, and Emerant.
With Balmy dew, bathit and kyndlie wet,
Quhill vapours hote richt fresche and weill ybet:
Dulce of odour, of fluour maist fragrant
The siluer droppis on Daseis distillant.
Quhilk verdour branches ouir the alars zet
With smoky sence the mystis reflectant.

¶ The fragrant flouris blomand in thair seis
Ouirspred the leuis of natures Tapestreis.
Abone the quhilk with heuinly Harmoneis
The birdis sat on twystis and on greis
Melodiously makand thair kyndlie gleis
Quhais schill noitis fordinned all the skyis.
Of repercust air the Echo cryis,
Amang the branches of the blomed treis.
And on the Laurers siluer droppis lyis.

The Prologue.

¶Quhill that I rowmed in that Paradice
Replenischit, and full of all delice
Out of the sey, Eous alift his heid.
I mene the hors quhilk drawis at deuice
The assiltrie and goldin Chair of price
Of Tytan, quhilk at morrow semis reid.
The new collour that all the nicht lay deid
Is restorit, baith foulis, flouris, and Rice
Recomfort was, throw Phebus gudlyheid.

¶ The Dasy and the Maryguld vnlappit
Quhilkis all the nicht lay with thair leuis happit
Thame to reserue fra rewmes pungitiue
The vmbrate treis that Tytan about wappit
War portrait, and on the eirth yschappit.
Be goldin bemis viuificatiue.
Quhais amene heit is maist restoratiue.
The Greshoppers amangis the vergers gnappit,
And Beis wrocht materiall for thair Hyue.

¶Richt hailsome was the sessoun of the zeir
Phebus, furth zet depured bemis cleir
Maist nutritiue till all thingis vegetant.
God Eolus of wind list nocht appeir:
Nor auld Saturne with his mortall speir.
And bad aspect contrair till euerie plant.
Neptunus nold within that Palice hant.
The beriall stremis rynning men micht heir
By bonkis grene with glancis variant.

¶ For till behald that heuinly place compleit
The purgit Air with new engendrit heit:

The Prologue.

The Sol enbroude with colour, vre, and stone:
The tender grene, the balmy droppis sweit:
Sa reioycit and comfort was my Spreit
I not was it a vision or fantone.
Amyd the buskis rowming myne alone
Within that garth of all plesance repleit
A voice I hard preclair as Phebus schone.

¶Singand ô May thow Mirrour of soles
Maternall Moneth Lady and Maistres
Till euerie thing adoun respirature.
Thyne heuinlie work and worthie craftines
The small herbis constranis till incres
O verray ground till working of nature.
Quhais hie curage and assucurit cure
Causis the eirth his frutes till expres
Diffundant grace on euerie creature.

¶Thy godly lore, cunning Incomparabill
Dantis the sauage beistis maist vnstabill
And expellis all that nature infestis.
The knoppit syonis with leuis aggreabill
For till reuert and burgione ar maid abill
Thy mirth refreschis byrdis in thair nestis.
Quhilks the to prise and nature neuer restis.
Confessand zow maist potent and louabill
Amang the brownis of the Oliue twystis.

¶In the is rute and augment of curage,
In the enforces Martis vassalage.
In the is amorous lufe and Harmonie
With Incrementis fresche in lustie age

The Prologue.

Quha that constranit ar in luifis rage
Addressand thame with obseruance airlie
Weill auchtis the till gloir and Magnifie.
And with that word I raisit my visage
Soir affrayit half in ane frenesie.

¶O Nature Quene and ô ze lustie May
(Quod I) tho, how lang sall I thus foruay?
Quhilk zow and Venus in this garth deseruis.
Recounsell me out of this greit affray:
That I may sing zow laudis day be day.
Ze that all mundane creatures preseruis.
Comfort zour man that in this fanton steruis.
With spreit arraisit and euerie wit away.
Quaiking for feir baith pulsis, vane, and neruis.

¶My fatall weird, my febill wit I wary
My desie heid quhome laik of brane gart vary
And not sustene so amiabill a soun
With ery curage febill strenthis sary
Bownand me hame and list na langer tary
Out of the air come ane impressioun.
Throw quhais licht in extasie or swoun,
Amyd the virgultis all in till a fary
As feminine so feblit fell I doun.

¶And with that gleme sa desyit was my micht
Quhill thair remanit nouther voice nor sicht.
Breith, motion, nor heiring naturall
Saw neuer man so faynt a leuand wicht.
And na ferly for ouir excelland licht.
Corruptis the wit and garris the blude awaill.

Vntill

The Prologue.

Vntill the hart that it na danger aill.
Quhen it is smorit, memberis wirkis not richt
The dreidfull terrour, swa did me assaill.

¶Zit at the last, I not how lang a space
A lytle heit appeirit in my face.
Quhilk had tofoir bene paill and voyde of blude
Tho in my sweuen I met a ferly cace.
I thocht me set within a desert place
Amyd a Forest by a hyddeous flude
With grysly fische, and schortly till conclude
I sall discryue (as God will giue me grace)
Myne Visioun in rurall termis rude.

Finis Prologi.

¶ The Palice of

HONOVR, Compylit be M. GAWINE DOWGLAS

Biſchop of Dunkeld.

¶THE FIRST PART.

THOW barrant wit ouirſet with fantaſyis
Schaw now the craft ẏ in thy memoꝛ lyis
Schaw now thy ſchame, ſchaw now thy badnyſtie
Schaw thy endite repꝛufe of Rethoꝛyis,
Schaw now thy beggit termis mair thā thꝛyis
Schaw now thy rymis, and thine harlotrie,
Schaw now thy dull exhauſt Inanitie.
Schaw furth thy cure and wꝛite thir freneſyis
Quhilks of thy ſempill cunning nakit the.

¶Wy rauiſt ſpꝛeit in that deſert terribill
Approchit neir that vglie flude hoꝛribill
Like till Cochyte the riuer Infernall,
With vile water quhilk maid a hiddious trubil
Rinnand ouir heid, blude reid and Impoſſibill
That it had bene a riuer naturall,
With bꝛayis bair, raiſ Rochis like to fall.
Quhairon na gers noꝛ herbis wer viſibill
Bot ſwappis bꝛint with blaſtis boꝛiall.

¶This laithlie flude rumland as thōder routit
In quhōe the fiſch zelland as eluis ſchoutit
Thair zelpis wilde my heiring all fordeifit

Thay grym mõſtures my ſpreits abhorrit & doutit
Not throw the ſoyl, bot muſkane treis ſproutit
Combuſt, barrant, vnblomit, and vnleifit,
Auld rottin runtis quhairen na ſap was leifit
Woch all waiſt, widderit with granis moutit
A ganand den quhair murtherars men reifit.

¶Quhairfoir my ſeluin was richt fair agaſt,
This wildernes abhominabill and waiſt
(In quhome nathing was nature comforting)
Was dark as Rock the quhilk the ſey vpcaſt.
The quhiſſilling wind blew mony bitter blaſt.
Runtis rattillit and vneith micht I ſtand.
Out throw the wod I crap on fute and hand
The Riuer ſtank, the treis cletterit faſt.
The ſoyl was nocht bot Warres ſlike and ſand.

¶And not but caus my ſpreitis wer abaiſit
All ſolitair in that deſert arraiſit.
Allace I ſaid is nane vther remeid.
Cruell Fortoun quhy hes thow me betraiſit?
Quhy hes thow thus my fatall end compaſſit?
Allace, allace ſall I thus ſone be deid
In this deſert, and wait nane vther reid.
Bot be deuoirit with ſum beiſt Rauenous.
I weip, I waill, I plene, I cry, I pleid
Inconſtant warld and quheill contrarious.

¶Thy tranſitorie pleſance quhat auaillis?
Now thair, now heir, now hie and now deuaillis
Now to, now fra, now law, now Wagnifyis,
Now hait, now cald, now lauchis, now beuaillis

Now

Now ſeik, now haill, now werie, now not aillis,
Now gude, now euill, now weitis, and now dryis
Now thow promittis, and richt now thow denyis
Now wo, now weill, now firme, now friuolous,
Now gam, now gram, now lowis, now dekyis,
Inconſtant warld and quheill contrarious.

¶Ha quha ſuld haue affyance in thy blis?
Ha quha ſuld haue firme eſperance in this?
Quhilk is allace ſa freuch and variant.
Certes nane, ſum hes, no wicht? ſurelie zis.
Than hes my ſelf bene gyltie? ze: I wis
Thairfoir allace ſall danger thus me dant?
Quhidder is becum ſa ſone this duillie hant?
And Ver tranſlait in winter furious?
Thus I beuaill my faitis repugnant.
Inconſtant warld and quheill contrarious.

¶Bydand the deid thus in my extaſie
Ane dyn I hard approching faſt me by.
Quhilk mouit fra the plague Septentrionall.
As heird of beiſtis ſtamping with loud cry.
Bot than God wait how affrayit was I
Traiſtand to be ſtranglit with beſtiall.
Amid a ſtock richt priuelie I ſtall.
Quhair luikand out anone I did eſpy
Ane luſtie rout of beiſtis rationall.

¶Of Ladyis fair and gudlie men arrayit
In conſtant weid that weill my ſpreitis payit
With degeſt mind, quhairin all wit aboundit.
Full ſoberlie thair haiknayis thay aſſayit

Eſter the faitis auld and not forwayit.
Thair hie prudẽce ſchew furth ꝥ nathing roũdit
Wlith gude effeir quhairat the wod reſoundit?
In ſteidfaſt ordour to vſie vnaffrayit.
Thay ryding furth with ſtabilnes ygroundit.

¶Amiddis quhome borne in ane goldin Chair
Duirkret with perle and ſtanis maiſt preclair
That drawin was by haiknayis all milk quhite
Was ſet a Quene, as lyllie ſweit of ſwair
In Purpour Rob hemmit with gold Ilk gair.
Quhilk Gemmit claſpis cloſit all perfite.
A Diademe maiſt pleſandlie polite
Set on the treſſis of hir giltin hair
And in hir hand a Scepter of delite.

¶Sine nixt hir raid in granit violate
Twelf damiſellis Ilk ane in thair eſtait:
Quhilks ſemit of hir counſell maiſt ſecre.
And nixt thame was a luſtie rout God wait
Lords, Ladyis, and mony fair Prelait:
Baith borne of hie eſtait and law degre.
Furth with thair Quene, thay all by paſſit me
Ane eſie pais, thay ryding furth the gait
And I abaid alone within the tre.

¶And as the rout was paſſit one and one,
And I remanand in the tre alone,
Out throw the wod come rydand Catiues twane
Ane on ane Aſſe, a widdie about his mone.
The vther raid, ane hiddeous horss vpone.
I paſſit furth and faſt at thame did frane.

Quhat

Quhat men thay wer? thay anſwerit me agane.
Our Namis bene Achitophel and Sinone.
That by our ſubtell menis, feill hes ſlane.

¶Wait ze (quod I) quhat ſignifeis zone rout?
Synon ſaid zee: and gaue ane hiddeous ſchout
We wretchis bene abiect thair fra I wis.
Zone isthe Quene of Sapience but dout
Lady Minerue, and zone twelf hir about,
Ar the prudent Sibillais full of blis.
Caſſandra eik Delbora and Circes
The fatall ſiſters twynand our weirdis out
Judith, Jael, and mony a Prophetis.

¶Quhilks groundit ar in firme Intelligence,
And thair is als into zone Court gone hence
Clerkis diuine, with problewmis curius.
As Salomon the well of Sapience.
And Ariſtotell fulfillit of prudence.
Saluſt, Senek, and Titus Liuius.
Pithagoras, Porphyre, Permenydus.
Melyſſes with his ſawis but defence.
Sidzach, Secundus, and Solenyus.

¶Ptholomeus, Ipocras, Socrates,
Empedocles, Neptenabus, Hermes,
Galien, Auerroes, and Plato,
Enoch, Lameth, Job and Diogenes,
The eloquent and prudent Uliſſes,
Wiſe Joſephus, and facund Cicero,
Melchiſedech with vther mony mo.
Thair veyage lyis throw out this wildernes,

To the Palice of Honour all thay go.

¶Is ſituat from hence liggis ten hunder.
Our hoꝛſis oft, oꝛ we be thair will founder.
Adew we may na langer heir remane.
Oꝛ that ze pas (quod I) tell me this wonder.
How that ze wꝛetchit Catiues thus at vnder.
Ar ſociat with this Court Souerane?
Achitophell maid this anſwer agane.
Knawis thow not? Haill, eirdquaik, and thūder?
Ar oft in May, with mony ſchour of rane.

¶Richt ſa we bene into this companie
Our wit aboundit and vſit was lewdlie?
My wiſdome ay fulfillit my deſire.
As thow may in the Bybill weill eſpy:
How Dauids pꝛayer put my counſell by.
I gart his Sone aganis him conſpire.
The quhilk was ſlane, quhairfoir vp be the ſwire
My ſelf I hangit fruſtrat ſa foulelie.
This Synon was a Gꝛeik that raiſit fire.

¶Firſt into Troy, as Virgill dois repoꝛt:
Sa tratour like maid him be dꝛaw ouirthoꝛt
Quhill in he bꝛocht the hoꝛs with men of Armis
Quhairthꝛow the toun deſtroyit was at ſchoꝛt.
(Quod I) is this zour deſtanie and ſoꝛt?
Curſit be he that ſoꝛrowis foꝛ zour harmis,
Foꝛ ze haue bene ſchꝛewis baith be goddis armis
Ze will obtene na entres at zone poꝛt
Bot gif it be thꝛow Soꝛcerie oꝛ Charmis.

¶Ingres to haue (quod thay) we not pꝛeſume,

It

Jt ſufficis vs to ſe the Palice blume
And ſtād on rowme quhair better folk bene char-
For to remane adew we haur na tume (rit,
This Jlk way cūmis the Courtis be our dume
Of Diane and Uenus, that feill hes marrit.
With that thay raid away as thay war ſkarrit
And J agane maiſt like ane Elriche grume
Crap in the muſkane Aikin ſtok miſharrit.

Thus wretchitlie J maid my reſidence.
Jmagining feill ſyle for ſum defence.
Jn contrair ſauage beiſtis maiſt cruell.
For na remeid bot deid be violence
Sum time aſſwagis febill Jndigence.
Thus in a part J recomfort my ſell.
Bot that ſa litle was J dar not tell.
The ſtichling of a Mous out of preſence
Had bene to me mair vgſum than the Hell.

¶Zit glaid J was that J with thē had ſpokin
Had not bene that certes my hart had brokin
For megirnes and puſillamitie.
Remanand thus within the tre all lokkin
Deſirand faſt ſum ſignes or ſum tokin,
Of Lady Uenus or hir companie.
Ane hart tranſformit ran faſt by the tree
With houndis rent, on quhome Diane was wro-
Thairby J vnderſtude that ſcho was nie. (kin

¶Thay had befoir declairit hir cūming.
Quair perfitelie forthy J knew the ſigne
Was Acteon, quhilk Diane nakit waitit

Bathing in a well and eik hir Wadynnis zing.
The Goddes was commouit at this thing.
And him in fozme hes of ane Hart tranſlatit:
I ſaw (allace) his houndis at him ſlatit:
Bakwert he blent to giue thame knawledgeing
Thay raiſ thair Lord miſknew him at thē batit.

¶Sine Ladyis come with luſtie giltin treſſis,
In habit wilde maiſt like till foſtareſſis.
Amiddis quhome heich on ane Eliphant
In ſigne that ſcho in chaiſtitie Increſſis
Raid Diane that Ladyis hartis dzeſſis
Till be ſtabill and na way Inconſtant.
God wait that nane of thame is variant.
All chaiſt and trew virginitie profeſſis
I note. bot few I ſaw with Diane hant.

¶Intill that Court I ſaw anone preſent
Jephteis douchter a luſtie Lady gent
Offerit to God in hir virginitie.
Polirena I wis was not abſent.
Peantheſile with mannis hardyment
Effyom and Virgenius douchter fre
With vther flouris of feminitie
Baith of the new and the auld Teſtament
All on thay raid and left me in the tre.

¶In that deſert diſpers in ſonder ſkatterit
Wer bewis bair quhome rane ꝛ wind on batterit
The water ſtank, the feild was odious
Quhair dzagoūs, leſſertis, alkis, edders ſwatterit
With mouthis gapand, fozkit taillis tatterit.

With

With mony a ſtang and ſpoutis vennemous
Corrupting Air be rewme contagious
Waiſt gros and vile enpoyſonit cludis clatterit
Reikand like hellis ſmoke ſulfurious.

¶ Wy daiſit heid fordullit diſſelie.
I raiſit vp half in ane litargie.
As dois ane Catiue ydrunkin in ſleip
And ſa appeirit to my fantaſie
A ſchynand licht out of the North eiſt ſky.
The quhilk with cure to heir I did tak keip.
Proportion ſounding dulceſt hard I peip.
In Muſick number full of Harmonie
Diſtant on far was caryit be the deip.

¶ Farther by water folk may ſoundis heir
Than be the eirth, the quhilk with poris ſeir
Up drinkis Air that mouit is be ſound.
Quhilk in compact water of ane Riueir
May nocht enter bot rinnis thair and heir.
Quhill it at laſt be caryit on the ground.
And thocht throw din be experience is found,
The fiſche ar cauſit within the Riuer ſteir
Inwith the water the noyis dois not abound.

¶ Violent din the Air brekis and deiris
Sine greit motioun of Air the water ſteiris
The water ſteirit, fiſches for feirdnes fleis.
Bot out of dout na fiſche in water heiris.
For as we ſe richt few of thame hes eiris,
And eik forſuith, bot gif wiſe Clerkis leis
Thair is na Air Inwith waters nor ſeis,

But quhilk na thing may heir (as wiſe mē leiris)
Like as but licht thair is na thing that ſeis.

¶Aneuch of this I not quhat it may mene
I will returne till declair all bedene
My dreidfull breame with griſlie fantaſyis.
I ſchew befoir quhat I had hard or ſene
Particularlie ſum of my panefull tene.
Bot now God wait quhat feirdnes on me lyis
Langer (I ſaid) and now this time is twyis
Ane ſound I hard of Angellis as it had bene
With harmonie forthinnand all the ſkyis.

¶Sa dulce, ſa ſweit, and ſa Melodious.
That euerie wicht thair with micht be Joyous
Bot I and Catiues dullit in diſpair.
For quhen a man is wraith or furious
Melancholik for wo, or tedious
Than is all pleſance till him maiſt contrair.
And ſemblablie than ſa did with me fair.
This Melodie Intonit heuinlie thus
For profound wo conſtranit me mak fair.

And murnand thus as ane maiſt wofull wicht
Of the maiſt pleſand Court I had a ſicht.
In warld adoun ſen Adam was creat.
Quhat ſang? quhat Joy? quhat harmonie? quhat
Quhat mirthfull ſolace pleſance all at richt? (licht
Quhat freſche bewtie? quhat excelland eſtait?
Quhat ſweit vocis? quhat worthis ſuggurait?
Quhat fair debaitis? quhat luiſſū Ladyis bricht
Quhat luſtie gallandis did on thair ſeruice wait?

Quhat

¶Quhat gudlie paſſance? and quhat mẽſtralie?
Quhat game thay maid? in faith not tell can J.
Thocht J had pꝛofound wit Angelicall.
The heuinlie ſoundis of thair Harmonie
Hes dynnit ſa my dꝛerie fantaſie
Baith wit and reſſoun half is loiſt of all.
Zit (as J knaw) als lichtlie ſay J ſall.
That Angellike and godlie companie.
Till ſe me thocht a thing Celeſtiall.

¶Pꝛoceidand furth was dꝛaw ane Chariote
Be Curſouris twelf trappit in grene veluote-
Of fine gold wer Junctures and harnaſingis.
The Lymnaris wer of birneiſt gold God wote,
Baith airtre and quheillis of gold Jhote.
Of goldin coꝛd wer lyamis and the ſtringis
Feſtinnit coniunct in maſſie goldin Ringis
Euyr Hamis conuenient foꝛ ſic note
And raw ſilk bꝛechamis ouir thair halſis hingis

¶The bodie of the Cairt of Euir bone.
With Criſolitis and mony pꝛecious ſtone.
Was all ouirfret in due pꝛopoꝛtioun.
Like ſternis in the Firmament quhilks ſchone.
Reparrellit was that godlike pleſand wone
Tyldit abone, and to the eirth adoun,
In richeſt claith of gold of Purpure broun
But fas noꝛ vther frenzeis had it none.
Saif claith of gold anamallit all faſſioun.

¶Quhairfra dependant hang thir megir bellis
Sum round, ſum thꝛaw in ſoũd the quhilks excel-

All wer of gold of Araby maiſt fine.
Quhilks with the wind concordandlie ſa knellis
That to be glaid thair ſound all wicht compellis
The Harmonie was ſa Melodious fine.
In mannis voice and Inſtrument diuine
Quhair ſa thay went it ſemit nathing ellis
Bot Jerarchyes of Angellis ordours nine.

¶Amid the Chair fulfillit of pleſance.
Ane Lady ſat, at quhais obeyſance.
Was all that rout: and wonder is to heir
Of hir excelland luſtie countenance.
Hir hie bewtie quhilk maiſt is to auance,
Precellis all, thair may be na compeir.
For like Phebus in hieſt of his Spheir
Hir bewtie ſchane raſtand ſa greit ane glance
All fairheid it oppreſt baith far and neir.

Scho was peirles of ſchap and portrature,
In hir had nature finiſchit hir cure.
As for gude hauingis thair was nane bot ſcho.
And hir array was ſa fine and ſa pure.
That quhairof was hir Rob, I am not ſure.
For nocht bot Perle and ſtanis micht I ſe.
Of quhome the brichtnes of hir hie bewtie,
For to behald my ſicht micht not Indure,
Mair nor the bricht Sone may the Bakkis Ee.

¶Hir hair as gold or Topaſis was hewit.
Quha hir beheld, hir bewtie ay renewit.
On heid ſcho had a Creſt of dyamantis.
Thair was na wicht that gat a ſicht, eſchewit.

War

War he neuer ſa conſtant or weill thewit.
Na he was woundit and him hir ſeruāt grantis
That heuinlie wicht, hir Criſtall Ene ſa dantis,
For blenkis ſweit nane paſſit vnperſewit
Bot gif he wer preſeruit as thir Sanctis.

¶I wonder ſair and faſt in mind did ſtair,
Quhat creature that micht be was ſa fair,
Of ſa peirles excellent womanheid.
And farlyand thus I ſaw within the Chair
Quhair that a man was ſet with lymmis ſquair
His bodie weill entailzeit euerie ſteid.
He bair a bow with dartis haw as leid.
His cleithing was als grene as ane Huntair:
Bot he forſuith had na Eine in his heid.

¶I vnderſtude be ſignes perſauabill,
That was Cupyd the God maiſt diſſauabill,
The Lady Venus his Mother a Goddes,
I knew that was the Court ſa variabill,
Of eirdly luſe quhilk ſendill ſtandis ſtabill.
Bot zit thair mirth and ſolace neuertheles,
In Muſick tone, and menſtralie exprres,
Sa craftelie with curage aggreabill,
Hard neuer wicht ſic Melodie I ges.

¶Accompanyit luſtie zonkeirs with all,
Freſche Ladyis ſang in voice virgineall.
Concordis ſweit, diuers entoned reportis,
Proportionis fine with ſound Celeſtiall
Duplat, triplat, diateſſeriall,
Seque, altera, and decupla reſortis

Diapaſon of mony ſindrie ſortis
War ſoung and playit be ſeir cunning Menſtrall
On luke Ballatis with mony fair diſportis.

¶In modulatioun hard I play and ſing
Faburdoun, prikſang, diſcant, countering,
Cant Drgane, figuratioun, and gemmell,
On croud, Lute, Harp, with mony gudlie ſpring.
Schalmes, Clariounis, portatiues hard I ring.
Monycord, Drgane, Tympane, and Cymbell,
Sytholl, Pſalttrie, and voices ſweit as bell.
Soft releſchingis in dulce deliuering
Fractionis diuide at reſt or cloſe compell.

¶Not Pan of Archaid ſa pleſandlie playis
Nor King Dauid quhais playing as men ſayis,
Coniurit the Spreit, the quhilk Saul confoundit
Nor Amphion with mony ſubtell layis.
Quhilk Thebes wallit with harping in his day-
Nor he that firſt the ſubtell craftis foundit (is
Was not in Muſick half ſa weill Iground it.
Nor knew thair meaſure tent daill be na wayis
At thair reſort baith heuin and eird reſoundit.

¶Na mair I vnderſtude thir numbers fine
Be God than dois a greik or a ſwine
Saif that me think ſweit ſoundis gude to heir
Na mair heiron my laubour will I tine.
Na mair I will thir verbillis ſweit define.
How that thair Muſick tones war mair cleir
And dulcer than the mouing of the Spheir.
Or Orpheus Harp of Thrace with ſound diuine
Glaſkeriane maid na noyis compeir.

¶Thay condiſcend ſa weill in ane accord,
That by na Joint thair ſoundis bene diſcord.
In euerie key thay werren ſa expert.
Of thair array gif I ſuld mak record
Luſtie ſpringaldis and mony gudlie Lord.
Tender zounglingis with piteous virgin hart.
Elder Ladyis knew mair of Luſtis art.
Diuers vthers quhilks me not liſt remord
Quhais lakkeſt weid was ſilkis ouirbrouderit.

¶In veſtures quent of mony ſindrie gyſe
I ſaw all claith of gold men micht deuiſe,
Purpour colour, punik and ſkarlote hewis.
Veluot Robbis maid with the grand aſſyſe
Dames, Satyne, begarnit mony wiſe,
Crameſie ſatine, veluot enbroude in diuers rewis
Satine figures champit with flouris and bewis.
Damelklure, tere, pyle quhairon thair lyis
Peirle Orphany quhilk euerie ſtait renewis.

¶Thair riche entire maiſt peirles to behald.
My wit can not diſcriue howbeit I wald
Mony entrappit ſteid with ſilkis ſeir.
Mony pattrell neruit with gold I tald
Full mony new gilt harnaſing not ald.
On mony Palfray luiſſum Ladyis cleir.
And nixt the Chair I ſaw formeſt appeir
Upon a bardit Curſer ſtout and bald.
Mars God of ſtrife enarmit in birneiſt geir.

¶Euerie Inuaſibill wapon on him he bair
His luik was grym, his bodie large and ſquair.

His lymmis weill entailzeit to be ſtrang?
His nek was greit a ſpan lenth weill oꝛ mair:
His viſage braid with Criſp bꝛoun curland hair
Of ſtature not ouir greit noꝛ zit ouir lang.
Behaldand Venus, O ze my luke (he ſang)
And ſcho agane with dalyance ſa fair
Hir Knicht him cleipis quhair ſa he ryde oꝛ gang.

¶Thair was Arcyte and Palemon alſwa,
Accompanyit with fair Aemilia.
The Quene Dido with hir fals luke Enee.
Trew Troilus, vnfaithfull Creſſida.
The fair Paris, and pleſand Helena.
Conſtant Lucrece, and traiſt Penelope.
Kind Piramus, and wobegone Thyſbe.
Doloꝛous Pꝛogne, triſt Philomena.
King Dauids luke thair ſaw I Barſabe.

¶Thair was Ceix with the kind Alcyon.
And Achilles wꝛoth with Agamemnon
Foꝛ Bꝛiſſida his Lady fra him tane.
Wofull Phillis with hir luke Demophoon.
Subtell Medea, and hir Knicht Jaſon.
Of France I ſaw thair Paris and Ueane,
Thair was Phedꝛa, Theſeus and Adꝛiane
The ſecreit wiſe hardie Ipomedon.
Aſſueir, Heſter, Irrepꝛeuabill Suſane.

¶Thair was the fals vnhappy Dalida.
Cruell wickit and curſt Deianira.
Maryit Biblis, and the fair Abſolon.
Ypſyphile, abhominabill Sylla.

Triſtram

Triſtram, Yſide, Helcana and Anna.
Cleopatra, and wozthie Mark Anthone.
Jole, Hercules, Alceſt, Jxion.
The onlie patient wife Greſſillida
Narciſus that his heid bzak on ane ſtone.

Thair was Jacob with fair Rachel his miak
The quhilk become till Laban foz hir faik,
Fourtene zeir bound with hart Jmmutabill.
Thair bene bot few ſic now J vndertaik.
Thir fair Ladyis in ſilk and claith of Laik,
Thus lang ſall not all foundin be ſa ſtabill.
This Uenus court, quhilk was in luſe maiſt abil
Foz till diſcriue my cunning is to waik
Ane multitude thay war Jnnumerabill.

¶Of gudlie folke in euerie kinde and age,
With blenkis ſweit freſche luſtie grene curage,
And daliance thay ryding furth in feir.
Sum leuis in hope, and ſum in greit thirlage,
Sum in diſpair, ſum findis his panis ſwage
Garlandis of flouris and rois Chaipletis feir
Thay bair on heid and ſamin ſang ſa cleir.
Quhill that thair mirth commouit my curage
Till ſing this lay quhilk followand ze may heir.

¶Conſtranit hart belappit in diſtres,
Gzoundit in wo, and full of heuines,
Complene thy panefull cairis Jnfinite.
Bewaill this warldis frail vnſteidfaſtnes,
Hauand regrait ſen gane is thy glaidnes,
And all thy ſolace, returnit in diſpite

O Catiue thrall Inuolupit in ſyte,
Confeſs thy fatall wofull wretchitnes,
Deuide in twane and furth diſſound all tyte,
Aggreuance greit in miſerabill Indyte,

¶ My cruell fact ſubiectit to pennance
Predeſtinate ſa void of all pleſance
Hes euerie greif amid mine hart Ingraue.
The ſlide Inconſtant deſtenie or chance,
Unequallie dois hing in thair ballance,
My demerites and greit dolour I haue,
This Purgatorie redoublis all the laue.
Ilk wicht hes ſum weilfair at obeyſance.
Saif me byſning that may na grace reſſaue
Deid the addres and do me to my graue.

¶ Wo worth ſic ſtrang miſfortoun anoyous
Quhilk hes oppreſt my ſpreitis maiſt Joyous.
Wo worth this warldis freuch felicite.
Wo worth my feruent diſeis doloros,
Wo worth the wicht that is not pietous
Quhair the treſpaſſour penitent thay ſe.
Wo worth this deid that daylie dois me die.
Wo worth Cupyd and wo worth fals Uenus.
Wo worth thame baith ay waryit mot thay be
Wo worth thair Court and curſit deſtenie.

¶ Loude as I mocht in dolour all diſtrenzeit
This lay I ſang and not ane letter fenzeit,
Tho ſaw I Uenus on hir lip did bite.
And all the Court in haiſt thair horſis renzeit,
Proclamand loude quhair is zone Poid ẏ plenzeit
Quhilk deith deſeruis committand ſic diſpite.
Fra tre to tre thay ſeirching but reſpite.

Quhil ane me fand quhilk ſaid & greit diſdenzeit
Auant veillane thow reclus Imperfite,

¶All in ane Feuir out of my muſkane bowre,
On kneis I crap and law for feir did lowze
Than all the Court on me thair heidis ſchuik.
Sum glowmand grim, ſū girnand with viſage ſowze
Sum in the nek gaue me feil dyntis dowze.
Pluk at the Craw thay cryit, deplome the Ruik
Pulland my hair with blek my face thay bruik.
Skrymmozie Fery gaue me mony a clowze.
For chyppynutie ful oft my chaftis quuik.

¶With pane, tozmēt, thus in thair teneful play
Till Uenus bound thay led me furth the way.
Quhilk than was ſet amid a goldin Chair.
And ſa confoundit into that fell affray
As that I micht conſidder thair array.
Me thocht the feild ouirſpzed with Carpettis fair
(Quhilk was tofoir brint, barrane vile, and bair)
Mor maiſt pleſand, bot all (the ſuith to ſay)
Micht nocht ameis my greuous panefull fair.

¶Enthronit ſat Mars, Cupid and Uenus.
Tho rais ane Clerk was cleipit Uarius.
Me till accuſen of a deidlie crime.
And he begouth and red ane dittay thus.
Thow wickit Catiue, wod and furious
Prelumpteouſlie now at this preſent time.
My Lady heir blaſphemit in thy Rime.
Hir ſone, hir ſelf, and hir Court amozous
For till betrais awaitit heir ſen Prime.

¶Now God thow wait me thocht my fortune fey
With quaikand voce and hart cald as a key.
On kneis I kneillit and mercie culd Imploir
Submittand me but ony langer ply
Uenus mandate and plesure to obey.
Grace was denyit and my trauell forloir.
For scho gaue charges to proceid as befoir.
Than Uarius spak richt stoutlie me to fley
Inioynand silence till ask grace ony moir.

He demandit my answer quhat I said?
Than as I mocht with curage all mismaid
Fra time I vnderstude na mair supplie.
Sair abaisit, belive I thus out braid:
Set of thir pointis of crime now on me laid
I may me quite giltles in veritie.
Zit first agane, the Judge quhilk heir I se,
This Inordinate Court and proces quaid
I will obiect for cauſis twa or thre.

¶Inclynand law (quod I) with petreous face
I me defend, Madame pleis it zour grace
Say on (quod scho) than said I thus but mair.
Madame ze may not sit in to this cace.
For Ladyis may be Judges in na place.
And mairatouir I am na seculair
A Spirituall man (thocht I be void of lair)
Cleipit I am, and aucht my liues space
To be remit till my Judge ordinair.

¶I zow beseik Madame with bissie cure
Till giue ane gratious Interlocuture

On

On thir exceptiounis now proponit lait.
Than ſuddanelie Venus (I zow aſſure)
Deliuerit ſone and with a voice ſa ſture
Anſwerit thus, thow ſubtell ſmy God wait,
Quhat wenis thow to degraid my hie eſtait.
Me to decline as Judge, curſt creature
It beis not ſa, the game gais vther gait.

¶As we the find thow ſall thoill Judgement
Not of a Clerk we ſe the repreſent
Saif onlie falſet and diſſaitfull taillis.
Firſt quhen thow come with hart and haill Intēt
Thow the ſubmittit to my commandement.
Now now thairof me think to ſone thow faillis.
I wene na thing bot folie that the aillis.
Zit Clerkis bene in ſubtell wordis quent.
And in the deid als ſchairp as ony ſnaillis.

¶Ze bene the men bewrayis my commandis:
Ze bene the men diſturbis my ſeruandis:
Ze bene the men with wickit wordis feill.
Quhilk blaſphemis freſche luſtie zoung gallādis
That in my ſeruice and retinew ſtandis.
Ze bene the men that cleipis zow ſa leill,
With fals beheſt quhill ze zour purpois ſteill
Sine ze forſweir baith bodie treuth, and handis,
Ze bene ſa fals ze can na word conceill.

¶Haue done (quod ſcho) ſchir Varius alſwyith
Do write the ſentence lat this Catiue kyith.
Gif our power may deming his miſdeid.
Than God thow wait gif that my Spreit was blyith.

The ſewerous hew intill my face did myith
All my male eis, for ſwa the horribill dreid
Haill me ouirſet: I micht not ſay my creid.
For feir and wo within my ſkin I wrythe
I micht not pray forſuith thocht I had neid.

¶Nit of my deith I ſet not half ane fle
For greit effeir me thocht na pane to die.
Bot ſair I dred me for ſum vther Jaip
That Venus ſuld throw hir ſubtillitie
In till ſum bylning beiſt tranſfigurat me.
As in a Beir a Bair ane Oule, ane Aip.
I traiſtit ſa for till haue bene miſchaip
That oft I wald my hand behald to ſe
Gif it alterit, and oft my viſage graip.

Tho I reuoluit in my minde anone,
How that Diane tranſformit Acteone.
And Juno eik as for a kow gart keip.
The fair Yo that lang was wobegone.
Argus hir zimmit that ene had mony one,
Quhome at the laſt Mercurius gart ſleip.
And hir deliuerit of that danger deip.
I rememberit alſo how in a ſtone
The wife of Loth Ichangit ſair did weip.

¶I vmbethocht how Joue and auld Saturne
In till ane Wolf thay did Lycaon turne.
And how the michtie Nabuchodonoſor
In beiſtlie forme did on the feild ſoiurne.
And for his gilt was maid to weip and murne.
Thir feirfull wonders gart me dreid full ſoir

For

For by exempilis oft I hard tofoir.
He ſuld bewar that ſeis his fellow ſpurne
Wilchance of ane ſuld be ane vtheris loir.

And rolland thus in diuers fantaſeis,
Terribill thochtis oft my hart did gryis
For all remeid was alterit in diſpair.
Thair was na hope of mercie till deuyis
Thair was na wicht my freind be na kin wyis,
All haillelie the Court was me contrair.
Than was all maiſt writtin the ſentence ſair
Wy febill minde ſeand this greit ſuppryis
Was than of wit and euerie blis full bair.

¶THE SECVND PART.

TO thus amid this hard perpleritie
Awaitand euer quhat moment I ſuld die?
Or than ſum new tranſfiguratioun.
He that quhilk is eternall veritie.
The glorious Lord ringand in perſounis thre
Prouydit hes for my Saluatioun
Be ſum gude ſpreitis Reuelatioun.
Quhilk Interceſſioun maid (I traiſt) for me
I forzet all Imaginatioun.

¶All haill my dreid I tho forzet in hy.
And all my wo, bot zit I wiſt not quhy
Saue that I had ſum hope till be releuit.
I raiſit than my viſage haiſtelie
And with a blenk anone I did eſpy
A luik ſicht quhilk nocht my hart engreuit,
Ane heuinlie rout, out throw the wod eſcheuit.

Of quhome the bountie gif I not deny
Uneith may be intill ane Scripture bewit.

¶With Lawreir Crownit in Robbis ſide all new,
Of a faſſoun and all of ſtedfaſt hew,
Arrayit weill ane Court I ſaw cum neir,
Of wiſe degeſt Eloquent Fathers trew.
And pleſand Ladyis quhilks freſch bewtie ſchew
Singand ſoftlie full ſweit on thair maneir,
On Poet wiſe all diuers verſis ſeir
Hiſtoryis greit in Latine toung and grew
With freſche Indite and ſoundis gude to heir.

¶And ſum of thame Ad Lyram playit and ſang
Sa pleſand verſe quhill all the Roches rang
Wetir Saphik, and alſo Elygie
Thair Inſtrumentis all maiſt war Fidillis lang
Bot with a ſtring quhilk neuer a wreiſt zeid wrãg
Sum had ane Harp, and ſum a fair Pſaltrie.
[On lutis ſum thair accentis ſubtelle]
Deuydit weill and held the meaſure lang
In ſoundis ſweit of pleſand melodie.

¶The Ladyis ſang in voices dulcorait
Facund Epiſtillis quhilks quhylum Ouid wrait
As Phillis Quene ſend till Duke Demophoon,
And of Penelope the greit regrait
Send to hir Lord ſcho douting his eſtait
That he at Troy ſuld loiſit be or tone.
How Acontius till Cydippe anone
Wrait his Complaint thair hard I weill God wait
With vther luſtie miſſiues mony one,

¶I had

¶I had greit wonder of thay Ladyis feir
Quhilks in that airt micht haue na compeir:
Of caſtis quent, Rethorik colouris fine
Sa Poeit like in ſubtell fair maneir,
And eloquent firme cadence Regulair
Thair veyage furth contenand richt as line
With ſang and play (as ſaid is) ſa deuine
Thay faſt approching to the place weill neir
Quhair I was torment into my greit pine.

¶And as that heuinlie ſort new nominait
Remouit furth on gudlie wiſe thair gait
Toward the Court quhilk was to foir expremit,
My curage grew, for quhat caus I nocht wait
Saif that I held me payit of thair eſtait,
And thay war folk of knawledge as it ſemit
Als into Venus Court full faſt thay demit,
Sayand zone luſtie Court will ſtop or meit
To Juſtifie this bylning quhilk blaſphemit.

¶Zone is (quod thay) the Court Rethorical
Of Poet termis ſingand Poeticall
And conſtant ground of famous ſtoreis ſweit
Zone is the facound well Celeſtiall
Zone is the Fontane and Originall
Quhairfra the well of Helicon dois fleit.
Zone ar the folk that comfortis euerie ſpreit
Be fine delite, and dite Angelicall
Cauſand gros leid, of maiſt gudnes gleit.

¶Zone is the Court of pleſand ſteidfaſtnes,
Zone is the Court of conſtant merines,

Zone is the Court of Joyous diſcipline
Quhilk cauſis folk thair purpois to expres
In ornate wiſe, prouokand with glaidnes
All gentill hartis to thair lair Incline.
Euerie famous Poeit men may deuine
Is in zone rout, lo zonder thair Princes
Thelpis, Mother of the Muſis nine.

¶And nixt her ſine, hir dochter firſt byget
Lady Cleo, quhilk craftelie dois ſet
Hiſtoryis auld, like as thay war preſent,
Euerilk oulk day, daylie dois hir det
In dulce blaſtis of Pypis ſweit but let.
The thrid ſiſter Thalia diligent
In wantoun writ, and Chronikill dois Imprent
The feird endytis, oft with cheikis wet,
Sair tragedeis, Melpomene the gent.

¶Terpſichore the fyft with humbill ſoun
Makis on Pſalteris modulatioun.
The ſext Erato, like thir louers wilde
Will ſing, daunce, and leip baith vp and doun.
Polymnia the ſeuint Muſe of Renoun
Dytis thir ſweit Rethorick colouris milde,
Quhilks ar ſa pleſand baith to man and Childe.
Urania the aucht ſiſter with Croun,
Writes the heuin, and ſtarnis all bedene.

¶The nynt quhome to nane vther is compeir,
Calliope the luſtie Lady cleir:
Of quhome the bewtie and the worthines
Hir vertewis greit ſchynis baith far and neir

For

For ſcho of Nobill fatis hes the ſteir
To wrte thair worſchip, victorie and prowes,
In Kinglie ſtile, quhilk dois thair fame Incres,
Cleipit in Latine Heroicus but weir,
Cheif of all wrte like as ſcho is Maiſtres.

¶Thir Muſis nine lo zonder may ze ſe
With freſche Nymphes, of water and of ſey,
And fair Ladyis of thir Tempillis auld
Pyerides, Dryades, and Saturee,
Nereides, Aones, Napee,
Of quhome the bounteis neidis not be tauld
Thus demit the Court of Venus monyfauld:
Quhilk ſpeiche refreſchit my perpleritie
Reioyſand weill my Spreit befoir was cauld.

¶The ſuddane ſicht of that firme Court foirſaid
Recomfort weill my hew befoir was faid
Amid my ſpreit the Joyous heit redoundit,
Behalding how the luſtie Muſis raid
And all thair Court quhilk was ſa blyith & glaid
Quhais merines all heuines confoundit,
Thair ſaw I weill in Poetrie ygroundit
The greit Homeir, quhilk in Greik langage ſaid
Maiſt eloquentlie, in quhome all wit yboundit.

¶Thair was the greit Latine Virgilius,
The famous Father Poeit Ouidius,
Dictes, Dares, and eik the trew Lucane,
Thair was Plautus, Poggius, and Perſius,
Thair was Terence, Donate, and Seruius,
Francis Petrache, Flaccus, Valeriane,

Thair was Eſope, Cato, and Allane,
Thair was Gaultair and Boetius,
Thair was alſo the greit Quintiliane.

¶Thair was the Satir Poet Juuenall,
Thair was the mirt and ſubtell Martiall.
Of Thebes Bute, thair was the Poet Stace:
Thair was Fauſtus, and Laurence of the Vale,
Pomponius, quhais fame of lait ſans faill
Is blawin wide thrꝛow euerie Realme and place.
Thair was the Worꝛall wiſe Poet Horace,
With mony vther Clerk of greit auaill
Thair was Brunell, Claudius and Boecchas.

¶Sa greit ane preis of pepill drew vs neir
The hundreth part thair names ar not heir,
Zit ſaw I thair of Brutus Albyon,
Geffray Chaucair, as A per ſe ſans peir
In his vulgare, and morall Johne Gowair.
Lydgait the Wonk raid muſing him allone
Of this Natioun I knew alſo anone
Greit Kennedie, and Dunbar zit vndeid,
And Quintine with ane Huttok on his heid.

¶Howbeit I ruld declair and weill Indite
The bounteis of that Court dewlie to wrꝛite
War ouir prolixt, tranſcending mine Ingine,
Tuitching the prꝛoces of my panefull ſite.
Beliue I ſaw thir luſtie Muſis quhite,
With all thair rout towart Venus decline.
Quhair Cupide ſat with hir in Thrꝛone deuine,
I ſtandand bundin in ane ſorꝛie plite
Bydand thair grace, or than my deidlie pine.

¶Straicht to the Quene thir ſamin Muſis raid
Maiſt eloquentlie thair ſalutatiounis maid,
Uenus agane ȝald thame thair ſaluſing
Richt reuerentlie, and on hir feit vpbȝaid:
Beſeikand thame to licht, nay, nay, thay ſaid
We may not heir mak na lang tarying.
Calliope maiſt facound and bening
Inquirit Uenus quhat wicht had hir miſmaid
Oȝ quhat was caus of hir thair ſoioȝning.

¶Siſter (ſaid ſcho) behald ȝone byſning ſchew
A ſubtell ſny, conſidder weill his hew
Standis thair bound, and bekinnit hir to me,
Zone Catiue had blaſphemit me of new
Foȝ to degraid, and do my fame adew.
A laitlie Ryme diſpitefull and ſubtell
Compylit hes, reheirſand loude and hie
Sclander, diſpite, ſoȝrow and velanie
To me, my Sone, and eik our Court foȝ ay.

¶He hes deſeruit deith, he ſall be deid,
And we remaine foȝſuith into this ſteid
To Juſtifie that Rebald Rennigait.
Quod Calliope, Siſter away all feid
Quhy ſuld he die, quhy ſuld he lois his heid.
To ſlay him foȝ ſa ſmall ane cryme, God wait
Greitar degrading war to ȝour eſtait
To ſic as he to mak conter pleid
How may ane Fule ȝour hie honour chekmait.

¶Quhat of his lak, ſa wide ȝour fame is blaw
Zour excellence maiſt peirles is ſa knaw,

Na wretchis word may depair zour hie Name
Giue me his life, and modifie the Law
For on my heid he ſtandis now ſic aw
That he ſall efter deſerue neuer mair blame
Nocht of his deith ze may report bot ſchame,
In recompence of his miſſettand ſaw
He ſall zour heſt in euerie part proclame.

¶Than Lord how glaid become my febil goiſt
My curage grew, the quhilk befoir was loiſt.
Seand I had ſa greit ane Aduocait.
That expertlie but prayer, price or coiſt.
Obtenit had my friwoll actioun almoiſt.
Quhilk was befoir periſchit and deſolait.
This quhile Venus ſtude in ane ſtudie ſtrait,
Bot finallie ſcho ſchew till all the Diſt
Scho wald do grace, and not be obſtinait.

¶I will (ſaid ſcho) haue mercie and pietie,
Do ſlaik my wraith, and let all rancour be
Quhair is mair vice, than to be ouir cruell,
And ſpeciallie in wemen ſic as me.
A Lady ly, that vſis tyrannie
Ane vennome is rather and a ſerpent fell
A vennemous dragoun, or ane deuill of hell
Is na compair to the Iniquitie
Of bald wemen, as thir wiſe Clerkis tell.

¶Greit God defend I ſuld be one of tho
Quhilk of thair feid and malice neuer ho
Out on ſic gram, I will haue na repreif
Calliope, ſiſter ſaid to Venus tho

At zour

At zour requeiſt this wretche ſall frelie go.
Heir J remit his treſpas, and all greif
Sall be forzet, ſa he will ſay ſum breif
Or ſchort ballat, in contrair pane and wo
Tuitching my Laude, and his pleſand releif.

¶And ſecundlie, the nixt reſſonabill command
Quhilk J him charge, ſe that he nocht ganeſtand
On thir conditiounis Siſter at zour requeiſt
He ſall gang fre, quod Calliope Inclinand,
Grant mercie ſiſter, J obleis be my hand
He ſall obſerue in all pointis zour beheſt,
Than Venus bad do ſlaik ſone my arreiſt.
Beliue J was releuit of euerie band,
Uprais the Court, and all the Parlour ceiſt.

¶Tho ſat J doun lawlie upon my kne
At command of prudent Calliope
Zeildand Venus thankis ane thouſand ſyith
For ſa hie freindſchip, and mercifull pietie
Excelland grace, and greit humanitie
The quhilk to me treſpaſſour did ſcho kyith
J the forgiue (quod ſcho) than was J blyith
Doun on ane ſtock J ſet me ſuddanelie
At hir command, and wrait this lay alſwyith.

¶Unwemmit wit deliuerit of dangair
Waiſt happelie deliuerit fra the ſnair,
Releuit fre of ſeruice and bondage,
Expell dolour, expell diſeiſis ſair,
Auoid diſpleſure, womenting and cair
Reſſaue pleſance, and do thy ſorrow ſwage.

Behald thy glaid freſche luſtie grene curage
Reioyce amid thir louers but diſpair,
Prouide ane place to plant thy tender age
In leſtand blis, to remane and repair.

¶Quha is in welth? quha is weill fortunait?
Quha is in pietie diſſeuerit fra debait?
Quha leuis in hope? quha leuis in eſperance?
Quha ſtandis in grace? quha ſtandis in firme eſtait?
Quha is content, reioycit air or lait?
Or quha is he that Fortoun dois auance?
Bot thow that is repleniſchit of pleſance
Thow hes comfort, all weilfair delicait,
Thou hes glaidnes thow hes the happie chance
Thow hes thy will, thow be nocht deſolait.

¶Incres in mirthfull conſolatioun,
In Joyous ſweit Imaginatioun,
Abound in luke of perfite Amouris
With diligent trew deliberatioun.
Rander louingis for thy Saluatioun
Till Venus, and vnder hir guerdoun all houris
Reſt at all eis, but fair or ſitefull ſchouris,
Abide in quiet, maiſt conſtant weilfair
[Be glaid and lycht now in thy luſty flouris]
Unwemmit wit deliuerit of all dangeir.

¶This lay was red in oppin audience
Of the Muſis, and in Venus preſence,
I ſtand content thou art obedient
Quod Calliope my companioun and defence,
Venus ſaid eik it was ſum recompence
For my treſpas, I was ſa penitent.

And

And with that word all ſuddanelie ſcho went,
In ane Inſtant ſcho and hir Court was hence
Zit ſtill abaid thir Muſis on the bent.

¶Inclinand than, I ſaid Calliope
My Protectour, my help, and my ſupplie,
My ſouerane Lady, my Redemptioun,
My Mediatour quhen I was dampnit to die
I ſall beſeik the godlie Maieſtie
Infinite thankis, laude and beniſoun
Zow till acquite, accoirding zour Renoun
Ir langis nocht my poſſibilitie
Till recompence ten part of this guerdoun.

¶Gloir, honour, laude and reuerence conding
Quha may korreild zow of ſa hie ane thing,
And in that part zour mercie I Imploir
Submitting me my liketime Indureing
Zour pleſure and mandate till obeyſing
Silence (ſaid ſcho) I haue aneuch heirfoir
I will thow wend and beſie wonderis moir
Than ſcho me hes betaucht in keiping
Of ane ſweit Nymphe maiſt faithfull and decoir.

Ane hors I gat maiſt richelie beſene
Was harneiſt all with wodbind leuis grene
Of the ſame ſute the trappours law doun hang
Quir him I ſtraid at command of the Quene,
Tho ſamin furth we ryding all bedene
Als ſwift as thocht with mony a merie ſang
My Nimphe alwayis conuoyit me of thzang
Amid the Muſis to ſe quhat thay wald mene

Quhilks ſang & playit, bot neuer a wreiſt zeid wrang.

¶Thrꝛow countreis ſeir, holtis and Roches hie
Quir vailis, planis, woddis, wallie, ſey,
Quir ſludis fair, and mony ſtrait Montane
We war caryit in twinkling of ane Eye
Our hoꝛſis ſlaw, and raid nocht as thocht me
Now out of France turſit in Tuſkane,
Now out of Flanders heicht vp in Almanie
Now into Egypt, now into Italie,
Now in the Realme of Trace, & now in Spane.

¶The hie Montanes we paſſit of Germanie
Quir Appennynus deuydand Italie,
Quir Ryne, the Pow, and Tiber ſludes fair,
Quir Alpheus, by Pyes the riche Cietie
Under the eirth, that enteris in the ſee,
Quir Rone, ouir Sane, ouir Frãce, & eik ouir Lair
And ouir Tagus the goldin ſandit Riuair,
In Theſſalie we paſſit the Mont Dethe
And Hercules in Sepulture fand thair.

Thair went we ouir the Riuer Peneyus
In Sicill eik, we paſſit the Mont Tinolus
Pleneiſt with Saiffron, Honie, and with wyne,
The twa toppit Famous Pernaſus,
In Trace we went, out ouir the Mont Emus,
Quhair Orpheus leirit his Harmonie maiſt fyne
Quir Carmelus quhair twa Prophetis deuyne
Remanit Helias and Heliſeus
Fra quhome the oꝛdour of Carmelites come ſyne.

¶And nirt vnto the land of Amaꝛon

In

In haiſt we paſt the Flude Termodyon
And ouir the hudge hill that hecht Mynas.
We raid the hill of Bacchus Citheron
And Olympus the Mont of Macedon
Quhilk ſemis heich vp in the heuin to pas
In that countrie we raid the flude Melas
Quhais water makis quhite ſcheip blak anone,
In Europe eik we raid the flude Thanas.

¶We raid the ſwift Riuer Sparthiades
The flude of Surry Achicorontes
The hill ſa full of wellis cleipit Yda
Armenie hillis, and flude Euphrates,
The flude of Nyle, the precious flude Ganges
The hill of Sicill ay birnand Ethna
And ouir the Mont of Phrigie Dindama
Hallowit in honour of the Mother goddes
Cauld Caucaſus we paſt in Sythia.

¶We past the fludis of Tigris and Phiſon
Of Thrace the Riuers Hebrun and Strymon,
The Mont of Modan and the flude Jordane,
The facund well and hill of Helicon,
The Mont Erix, the well of Acheron
Baith dedicate to Venus in certane,
We past the hill and deſert of Libane
Ouir Mont Cinthus quhair god Appollo ſchone
Straicht to the Muſis Caballine Fontane.

¶Beſide that Criſtall well ſweit and degeſt
Thame to repois, thair horſs refreſche and reſt,
Alichtit doun thir Muſis cleir of hew

The companie all haillelie leiſt and beſt
Thrang to the well to drink quhilk ran ſouthweſt
Throw out ane meid quhair alkin flouris grew
Amang the laiſ ful faſt I did perſew
To drink, bot ſa the greit preis me oppreſt,
That of the water I micht not taiſt a drew.

Our hoſtis paſturit in ane pleſand plane
Law at the fute of ane fair grene Montane
Amid ane Meid ſchaddowit with Ceder treis,
Saif fra all heit, thair micht we weill remane.
All kinde of herbis, flouris, frute and grane
With euerie growand tre thair men micht cheis
The beriall ſtremis rinnand ouer ſtanerie greis
Maid ſober noyis, the Schaw dinnit agane
For birdis ſang and ſounding of the beis.

¶The Ladyis fair on diuers Inſtrumentis
Went playand, ſingand, danſand ouir the bentis
Full Angellike, and heuinlie was thair ſoun,
Quhat creature amid his hart Imprentis
The freſche bewtie, the gudelie repreſentis?
The merie ſpeiche, fair hauingis, hie Renoun
Of thame, wald ſet a wiſe man half in ſwoun,
Thair womanlines wyithit the Elementis
Stoneiſt the heuin, and all the eirth adoun.

¶The warld may not conſidder nor diſcriue
The heuinlie Joy, the blis I ſaw beliue
Sa Ineffabill abone my wit ſa hie,
I will na mair thairon my foirheid riue
Bot breiflie furth my febill proces driue.

Law

Law in the Weid ane Palzeoun picht I ſe
Waiſt gudlieſt, and richeſt that micht be,
Wy Gouernour ofter than times fiue
Unto that hald to pas commandit me.

¶Swa finallie ſtraicht to that Royall ſteid
In fellowſchip with my leidar I zeid,
We enterit ſone, the Portar was not thza
Thair was na ſtopping lang demand noz pleid
I kneillit law, and vnheildit my heid,
And tho I ſaw our Ladyis twa and twa,
Sittand on deiſſis, familiars to and fra
Seruand thame faſt with Ypocras and Weid
Delicait meitis, dainteis ſeir alſwa.

¶Gzeit was the pzeis, the Feiſt Royall to ſene
At eis thay eit, with Interludis betwene.
Gaue Pzoblewmis ſeir, and mony fair demandis
Inquyzand quha beſt in thair times had bene.
Quha traiſt louers in luſtie zeiris grene,
Sū ſaid this way, and ſum thairto ganeſtandis,
Than Calliope, Duide, to appeir commandis
Wy Clerk (quod ſcho) of Regiſter bedene
Declair quha war maiſt wozthie of thair handis.

¶With Lawzere crownit at hir cōmandement
Upſtude this Poeit digeſt and eloquent,
And ſchew the fatis of Hercules the ſtrang
How he the griſlie hellis hounds out rent,
Slew Lyounis, Wonſturis, and mony fell Serpent
And to the deith feil michtie Gyātis dang,
Of Theſeus eik, he ſchew the weiris lang,

Agane the Quene Ypolita the ſweit
And how he ſlew the Minotaur in Creit.

¶Of Perſeus he tauld the knichtlie deidis
Quhilk vinquiſchit, as men in Duide reidis
Cruell tyrantis, and Monſtures mony one
Of Dianis Bair in Callidon the dreidis
How throw ane Ladyis ſchot his ſydis bleidis
The bretheris deith, and ſine the ſiſters mone
He ſchew how King Priamus ſone Yſſacone
Efter his deith, bodie and all his weidis,
Intill ane Skarth tranſformit was anone.

¶He ſchew at Troy quhat wiſe the Greiks lāds:
How feirs Achilles ſtranglit with his handis
The vailzeāt Cygnus, Neptunus ſone maiſt deir
Quhilk at Greikis arriuall on the ſtrandis
A thouſand ſlew that day vpon the ſandis,
Faucht with Achill, and bluntit all his ſpeir.
Na wapin was that micht him wound or deir
Quhill Achilles brist of his Helme the bandis,
And wirryit him be force for all his feir.

¶He ſchew full mony tranſmutatiounis
And wonderfull new figuratiounis
Be hundrethis mo than I haue heir expremit,
He tauld of lufis meditatiounis,
The craft of lufe, and the Saluatiounis
How that the furie luſtis ſuld be ſtemit
Of diuers vther maters als he demit,
And be his prudent ſchairp Relatiounis
He was expert of all thing as it ſemit.

Vpraiſ

¶Vprais the greit Virgilius anone
And playit the ſportis of Daphnis & Corydone,
Sine Terence come and playit the Comedy
Of Parmeno, Thraſon and wiſe Gnatone
Iuuenall like ane mowar him allone
Stude ſcornand euerie man as thay zeid by.
Martiall was Cuik till roiſt, ſeith, farce and fry,
And Poggius ſtude with mony girne and grone
On Laurence Valla ſpittand and cryand fy.

¶With mirthis thus, and meitis delicait
Thir Ladyis feiſtit accoirding thair eſtait
Vprais at laſt commandand till tranoynt
Retreit was blawin loude, and than God wait
Yen micht haue ſene ſwift horſis haldin hait,
Schynand for ſweit as thay had bene anoynt.
Of all that rout was neuer a prik diſioynt
For all our tary, and I furth with my mait
Mountit on hors, raid ſawin in gude point.

¶Duir mony gudelie plane we raid bedene
The vaill of Hebron, the Camp Damaſcene,
Throw Joſaphat, and throw the luſtie vaill,
Duir waters wan, throw worthie woddis grene,
And ſwa at laſt in lifting vp our Ene
We ſe the finall end of our trauaill
Amid ane plane a pleſand Roche to waill,
And euerie wicht fra we that ſicht had ſene
Thankand greit God thair heidis law deuaill.

¶With ſinging, lauching, merines and play
Vnto this Roche we ryden furth the way,

Now mair to wrīte for feir trimblis my pen,
The hart may not think nor mannis toung ſay,
The Eir nocht heir, nor zit the Eye ſe may
It may not be Imaginit with men
The heuinlie blis, the perfite Joy to ken
Quhilk now I ſaw, the hundreth part all day
I micht not ſchaw thocht I had toungis ten.

¶Thocht all my members toūgis war on raw
I war not abill the thouſand fauld to ſchaw,
Quhairfoir I feir ocht farther mair to wrīte,
For quhidder I this in ſaull or bodie ſaw
That wait I nocht, bot he that all dois knaw
The greit God wait, in euerie thing perfite
Eik gif I wald, this auiſioun Indite
Janglaris ſuld it bakbite and ſtand nane aw
Cry out on dremis quhilks ar not worth ane mite.

¶Sen this till me all veritie be kend
I repute better thus to mak ane end,
Than ocht to ſay that ſuld heiraris engreif.
On vther ſide thocht thay me vilipend
I conſidder prudent folk will commend
The veritie, and ſic Jangling repreif
With quhais correctioun, ſupport and releif
Furth to proceid, this proces I pretend
Traiſtand in God my purpois to eſcheif.

¶Howbeit I may not euerie circumſtance
Reduce perfitelie in remembrance.
Wyne Ignorance zit ſum part ſall deuiſe
Tuitching this ſicht of heuinlie ſweit pleſance.

Now

Now emptie pen write furth thy luſtie chance
Schaw wonderis feill, ſuppois thow be not wiſe
Be diligent, and ripelie the auiſe,
Be quick and ſchairp voidit of variance
Be ſweit, and caus not gentill hartis griſe.

¶THE THRID PART.

ZE Muſis nine be in my adiutorie,
That maid me ſe this blis and perfite glorie
Teiche me zour facund caſtis Eloquent,
Len me a recent ſchairp freſche memorie
And caus me dewlie till Indite this ſtorie
Sum gratious ſweitnes in my breiſt Imprent
Till mak the heirars bowſum and attent
Reidand my writ, Illuminate with zour loir
Infinite thankis randerand zow thairfoir.

¶Now breiflie to my purpois for till gone
About the hill lay wayis mony one
And to the hicht bot ane paſſage Ingraue,
Hewin in the Rochе of ſlid hard Marbell ſtone
Agane the Sone like to the glas it ſchone,
The aſcence was hie, and ſtrait for till conſaue
Zit than thir Muſis gudelie and ſuaue
Alichtit doun, and clam the Rochе in hie
With all the rout, outtane my Nimphe and I.

¶Still at the hillis fute we twa abaid
Than ſuddanelie my keipar to me ſaid
Aſcend Galland, than for feir I quoik,
Be not affrayit, ſcho ſaid be not diſmaid,
And with that word vp the ſtrait rod abraid

I followit faſt, ſcho be the hand me tuik,
Zit durſt I neuer for dreid behind me luik
With mekill pane thus clam I neir the hicht
Quhair ſuddanelie I ſaw ane griſlie ſicht.

¶As we approchit neir the hillis heid
Ane terribill ſewch birnand in flammis reid
Abhominabill, and how as hell to ſe
All full of Brintſtane, Pick and bulling Leid,
Quhair mony wretchit creature lay deid.
And miſerabill catiues zelland loude on hie
I ſaw, quhilk den micht weill compairit be
Till Xanthus the ſtude of Troy ſa ſchill
Birnand at Venus heſt contrair Achill.

¶Amid our paſſage lay this vglie ſicht
Nocht braid bot ſa horribill to euerie wicht
That all the warld to pas it ſuld haue dreid.
Weill I conſidderit na vppermair I micht,
And to diſcend ſa hiddeous was the hicht
I durſt not auenture for this eird on dreid
Trimbland I ſtude wt teith chatterand gude ſpeid
Ay Nymphe beheld my cheir and ſaid let be
Thow ſall nocht aill, and lo the caus (quod ſche.)

¶To me thow art commit, I ſall the keip,
Thir pieteous pepill amid this laithlie deip
War wretchis quhilks in luſtie zeiris fair
Pretendit thame till hie honour to creip.
Bot ſuddanelie thay fell on ſleuthfull ſleip
Followand pleſance, drownit in this Loch of cair
And with that word ſcho hint me be the hair.

Carpit

Carpit me till the hillis heid anone
As Abacuk was brocht in Babylone.

¶As we bene on the hie hill ſituait,
Luik doun (quod ſcho) conſaue in quhat eſtait
Thy wretchit warld thow may conſidder now
At hir command with mekill dreid God wait
Out ouir the hill ſa hiddeous hie and ſtrait
I blent adoun, and felt my bodie grow
This brukill eird ſa litill till allow
Me thocht I ſaw birne in ane fyrie rage
Of ſtormie ſey quhilk micht na maner ſwage.

¶That terribill tempeſt hiddeous wallis huge
War maiſt griſlie for to behald or Judge
Quhair nouther reſt nor quiet micht appeir
Thair was ane perrellous place folk for to ludge
Thair was na help, ſupport nor zit refuge
Innumerabill folk I ſaw flotterand in feir
Quhilk pereiſt on the walterand wallis weir
And ſecundlie I ſaw ane luſtie Barge
Duirſet with ſeyis and mony ſtormie charge.

¶This gudelie Carwell taiklit traiſt on raw
With blanſchite ſaill milk quhite as ony ſnaw,
Richt couer richt and wonder ſtranglie beildit
Was on the bairdin wallis quite ouirthraw
Contrariouſlie the buſteous wind did blaw
In bubbis thik, that na ſchipis ſail micht weild it
Now ſank ſcho law, now hie to heuin vpheildit,
At euerie part ſwa ſey and windis draif
Quhill on ane ſand the ſchip did brift and claif.

¶It was ane pieteous thing, alaik, alaik,
To heir the dulefull cry quhen that ſcho ſtraik
Maiſt lamentabill the pereiſt folk to ſe
Sa fameiſt, dzowkit, mait, fozwzocht and waik.
Sum on ane plank of Fir tre, and ſum of Aik,
Sum hang vpon a Takill, ſum on ane tre,
Sum fra thair grip ſone weſchin with the ſee
Part dzownit, part to the Roche fleit oz ſwam
On raipis oz burdis ſine vp the hill thay clam.

¶Tho at my Nimphe bzeiſtie I did Inquire
Quhat ſignifyit that feirfull wonders ſeir
Sone multitude (ſaid ſcho) of pepill dzownit
Ar faithles folk, quhilks quhill thay ar heir
Wilknawis God, and followis thair pleſeir,
Quhairfoir thay ſall in endles fire be bzint,
Sone luſtie ſchip thow ſeis pereiſt and tint
In quhome sone pepill maid ane perrellous race
Scho hecht the Carwell of the ſtate of grace.

¶Ze bene all bozne the ſonnis of Ire I ges
Sine thzow Baptiſme gettis grace and faithfulnes.
Than in sone Carwell ſurelie ze remane,
Oft ſtozmeſted with this warldis bzukilnes
Quhill that ze fall in ſin and wzetchitnes
Than ſchip bzokin ſall ze dzown in endles pane
Except be faith ze find the plank agane
Be Chziſt, wirking gude warkis I vnderſtand
Remane thairwith, thir ſall zow bzing to land.

¶This may ſuffice (ſaid ſcho) tuitchād this part
Returne thy heid behald this vther art

Conſidder

Conſidder wonders, and be vigilant
That thow may better endyten efterwart
Things quhilkis I ſall the ſchaw or we depart,
Thow ſall haue couth of ſentence and not ſcant.
Thair is na welth nor weilfair thow ſall want
The greit Palice of honour thow ſall ſe
Lift vp thy heid, behald that ſicht (quod ſche)

¶At hir command I raiſit hie on hicht
My viſage till behald that heuinlie ſicht,
Bot to diſcriue this mater in effek
Impoſſibill war till ony eirdlie wicht
It tranſcendis far abone my micht
That I with Ink may do bot paper blek
I mon draw furth the zok lyis on my nek
As of the place to ſay my leude auiſe
Pleneiſt with pleſance like to Paradice.

¶I ſaw ane plane of peirles pulchritude
Quhairin aboundit alkin thingis gude,
Spice, wine, corne, oyle, tre, frute, flour, herbis grene
All foullis, beiſtis, birdis, & alkin fude,
All maner fiſches baith of ſey and flude.
War keipit in pondis of poleiſt ſiluer ſchene
With purifyit water as of the Criſtall clene
To noy the ſmall, the greit beiſtis had na will,
Nor Rauenous foulis the lytill Volatill.

¶Still in the ſeſſoun all things remanit thair
Perpetuallie but outher noy or ſair,
Ay rypit war baith herbis, frute and flouris
Of euerie thing the names to declair

Unto my ſebill wit vnpoſſibill wair
Amid the Weid repleit with ſweit odouris
A Palice ſtude with mony Royall Towris
Quhair kyrnellis quent feil turrettis men micht find
And goldin Thanis waiſand w the wind.

¶Pinnakillis, Fyellis, Turnpekkis mony one
Gilt birneiſt tozzis, quhilk like to Phebus ſchone
Skarſment, Repriſe, Cozbell and Battellingis,
Fulzery bozdouris of mony precious ſtone.
Subtile muldzie wzocht mony day agone
On Buttereis, Jalme pillaris & pleſand ſpringis
Quick Imagerie, with mony luſtie ſingis
Thair micht be ſene, and mony wozthie wichtis
Befoir the zet arrayit all at richtis.

¶Furth paſt my Nimphe, I followit ſubſequēt
Straicht thzow the plane to the firſt waird we went
Of the Palice, and enterit at the pozt.
Thair ſaw we mony ſtaitlie tozname
Lancis bzokin, knichtis laid on the bent,
Pleſand paſtance, and mony luſtie ſpozt.
Thair ſaw we als, and ſumtime battell mozt
All thir (quod ſcho) on Uenus ſeruice vaikis
In deidis of armis foz thair Ladyis ſaikis.

¶Uefyand I ſtude, the principall place but peir
That heuinlie Palice all of Criſtall cleir,
Wzocht as me thocht of poleiſt beriall ſtone
Bofiliall, noz Oliab but weir,
Quhilk Sancta Sanctorum maid maiſt riche & deir
Noz he that wzocht the Tempill of Salomon

Noz

Nor he that beildit the Royall Ylion
Nor he that forgit Darius Sepulture
Culd not perfourme ſa craftelie ane cure.

¶Studiand heiron my Nimphe vnto me ſpak
Thus in a ſtair quhy ſtandis thow ſtupifak
Gouand all day, and nathing hes vefite.
Thow art prolixt, in haiſt returne thy bak,
Ga efter me and gude attendance tak.
Quhat now thow ſeis, luik efterwart thow write
Thow ſall behald all Uenus blis perfite.
Thair with ſcho till ane garth did me conuoy
Quhair that I ſaw aneuch of perfite Joy.

¶Amid ane Throne with ſtanis riche ouirfret,
And claith of gold Lady Uenus was ſet
By hir, hir Sone Cupide quhilk nathing ſeis,
Quhair Mars enterit na knawledge micht I get
Bot ſtraicht befoir Uenus viſage but let
Stude emeraut ſtages twelf, grene precious greis
Quhairon thair grew thre curious goldin treis
Up ſtandand weill the Goddes face befoirne
Ane fair Mirrour be thame quentlie vpboirne.

¶Quhairof it makit was I haue na feill
Of beriall Criſtall glas or birneiſt ſteill,
Of Diamant, or of the Carbunkill Gem,
Quhat thing it was, define may I not weill,
Bot all the boirdour circulair euerie deill
Was plait of gold, rais, ſtok and vtter hem,
With verteous ſtanis picht that blude wald ſtem
For quha that woundit was in the Tournament,

Wor haill fra he vpon the Mirrour blent.

¶This royall Relick ſa riche and radious
Sa poleiſt, pleſand, purifyit and pꝛecious
Quhais bounteis half to wꝛite I not preſume,
Thairon to ſe was ſa delitious,
And ſa excelland ſchaddowis gracious
Surmounting far in bꝛichtnes to my dome
The coiſtlie ſubtell ſpectakill of Rome
Oꝛ zit the Mirrour ſend to Canace,
Quhairin men micht mony wonders ſe.

¶In that mirrour I micht ſe at ane ſicht
The deidis and fatis of euerie eirdlie wicht
All thingis gone like as thay war pꝛeſent
All the creationis of the Angellis bꝛicht
Of Lucifer the fall foꝛ all his micht.
Adam firſt maid, and in the eirth yſent
And Noyes flude thair ſaw I ſubſequent
Babylon beild that Towꝛe of ſic Renoun
Of Sodomes the feill ſubuerſioun.

¶Abraham, Iſaac, Jacob, Joſeph I ſaw
Hoꝛnit Moyſes with his auld Hebꝛew Law
Ten Plaiges in Egypt ſend foꝛ thair treſpas,
In the reid ſey with all his Court on raw
King Pharao dꝛownit, ꝑ God wald neuer knaw
I ſaw quhat wiſe the ſey deuydit was
And all the Hebꝛewis dꝛy fute ouir it pas
Sine in deſert I ſaw thame fourtie zeiris
Of Joſue I ſaw the woꝛthie weiris.

¶Of

¶Of Judicum the battellis ſtrang anone
I ſaw of Jephte, and of Gedeone,
Of Amalech the cruell Homicide,
The wōderfull wo3kis of douchtie Duke Samſone
Quhilk ſlew a thouſand w̄ ane Aſſes bone.
Rent Tempillis doun, and 3ettis in his p3ide
Of quhais ſtrenth merwellis this warld ſa wide
I ſaw Duke Sango3 thair with mony a knok
Sex hundre3eth men ſlew with ane Pleuchis ſok.

¶The p3ophet Samuel ſaw I in that glas
Anoyntit King Saul, quhais ſone Jonathas
I ſaw vincus ane greit Diſt him allane:
Young Dauid ſla the griſlie Golyas
Quhais ſpeir heid wecht thre hūdreth vnces was
Jeſbedonab the Gyant mekill of mane
Lay be the handis of michtie Dauid ſlane
With fingers ſex on ather hand but weir.
Dauid I ſaw ſla baith Lyoun and Beir.

¶This Dauid eik at ane onſet a ſtound
Aucht hundreth men I ſaw him bring to ground
With him I ſaw Banayas the ſtrang
Quhilk twa Lyounis of Moab did confound,
And gaue the ſtalwart Ethiop deidis wound
With his awin ſpeir that of his hand he thrang
Unabaſitlie this Campioun ſaw I gang
In a deip ciſterne, and thair a Lyoun ſleuch
Quhilk in ane ſto3me of ſnaw did harme aneuch.

¶Of Salomon the wiſdome and eſtait,
Thair ſaw I, and his riche Tempill God wait

His ſone Roboam quhilk throw his helis pride
Tint all his liegis hartis be his fait.
He was to thame ſa outrageous Ingrait,
Of twelf Tribes ten did fra him deuide.
I ſaw the Angell ſla be nichtis tide
Four ſcoir thouſandis of Sennacheribs Oiſt
Quhilk come to weir on Jowrie with greit boiſt.

¶I ſaw the life of the King Ezechy
Prolongit xv. zeir and the Prophet Hely
Amid a fyrie Chair to Paradice went,
The ſtorys of Eſras and of Neemy,
And Daniell in the Lyounis Caue ſaw I
For he the Dragoun ſlew, Bel brak and ſchent
The Children thre amid the Fornace ſent,
I ſaw the tranſmigratioun in Babylon
And baith the buikis of Paralipomenon.

¶I ſaw the halie Archangell Raphaell,
Marie Sara, the douchter of Raguell
On Thobias for his Juſt Fathers faik,
And bind the cruell Deuill that was ſa fell
Quhilk ſlew hir ſeuin firſt huſbands as thay tell
And how Judith Holiphernes heid of ſtraik,
Be nichtis tyde, and fred hir toun fra wraik,
Jonas in the Quhaillis wombe dayis thre
And ſchot furth ſine I ſaw at Miniue.

¶Of Job I ſaw the patience maiſt degeſt
Of Alexander I ſaw the greit conqueſt,
Quhilk in twelf zeiris wan neir this warld on breid
And of Anthiocus the greit vnrest,

How

How tyranlie he Jowrie all oppreſt,
Of Machabeus full mony ane Knichtlie deid
That gart all Greece and Egypt ſtand in dreid
In quiet brocht his Realme throw his prowes
I ſaw his brether Symon and Jonathas.

¶Quhilks war maiſt worthie quhil thair dayis rang
Of Thebes eik I ſaw the weiris lang,
Quhair Tydeus allone flew fiftie Knichtis,
How finallie of Greece the Campiounis ſtrang
All haill the flour of Knichtheid in that thrang
Deſtroyit was, quhill Theſeus with his michtis
The toun and Creon wan for all his flichtis.
Thair ſaw I how, as Statius dois tell
Amphiorax the Biſchop ſank to hell.

¶The faithful Ladyis of Greece I micht cōſidder
In claithis blak all bairfute pas togidder,
Till Thebes fege fra thair Lordis war ſlane.
Behald ye men that callis Ladyis lidder
And licht of laitis, quhat kindnes brocht thē hidder
Quhat treuth & lufe did in yair breiſts remane
I traiſt ye ſall reid in na writ agane
In ane Realme ſa mony of ſic conſtance
Perſaue thairby wemen ar till auance.

¶Of Duke Pirithous the ſponſage in ẏ tide
Quhair the Centauris reft away the bride
Thair ſaw I, and thair battell hudge to ſe,
And Hercules quhais Renoun walkis wide
For Iriona law by Troyis ſide,
Faucht and ouircome a Monſtour in the ſey

For quhilk (quhen his rewaird denyit was) he
Maid the firſt ſeige and the deſtructioun
Of michtie Troy, quhylum that Royall toun.

¶To win the fleis of gold tho ſaw I ſent
Of Greece the Nobillis, with Jaſon conſequent,
Haill thair conqueiſt, and all Medeas flichtis
How for Jaſon Ypſiphile was ſchent,
And how at Troy as thay to Colchos went
Greikis tholit of King Laomedon greit vnrichtis
Quhairfoir Troy deſtroyit was be thair michtis
Iriona reuiſt, and Laomedon ſlane
Bot Priamus reſtorit the toun agane.

¶The Judgement of Paris ſaw I ſine
That gaue the Apill, as Poetis can define
Till Venus, as goddes maiſt gudlie,
And how in Greece he reuiſchit Quene Helene
Quhairfoir the Greikis with thair greit Nauie
Full mony thouſand Knichtis haiſtelie
Thame till reuenge ſaillit towart Troy in hy
I ſaw how be Ulixes with greit Joy
Quhat wiſe Achill was found & brocht to Troy.

¶The cruell battellis and the dintis ſtrang
The greit debait, and eik the weiris lang
At Troyis ſeige, the Mirrour to me ſchew
Suſtenit ten zeiris Greikis Troianis amang.
And ather partie ſet full oft in thrang,
Quhair that Hector did douchtie deidis anew
Quhill feirce Achil baith him and Troylus ſlew
The greit hors maid I ſaw, and Troy ſine tint,

And

And fair Ylion all in flambis brint.

¶Sine out of Troy I ſaw the Fugitiues,
How that Eneas, as Virgill weill diſcriues
In countreis ſeir was be the ſeyis rage
Bewauit oft, and how that he arriues
With all his Flote, but danger of thair liues,
And how thay war reſſet baith man and page
Be Quene Dido, remanand in Carthage,
And how Eneas ſine, as that thay tell
Went for to ſeik his Father doun in hell.

¶Duir Stir the Flude I ſaw Eneas fair
Quhair Charon was the buſteous Ferriar,
The Fludes four of hell thair micht I ſe
The folk in pane, the wayis circulair
The welterand ſtone wirk Siſipho micht cair
And all the pleſance of the Camp Eliſe
Quhair auld Anchiſes did commoun with Enee,
And ſchew be line all his ſucceſſioun
This Ilk Eneas maiſt famous of Renoun.

¶I ſaw to Goddes mak the Sacrifice
Quhairof the ordour and maner to deuiſe
War our prolixt, and how Eneas ſyne
Went to the ſchip, and eik I ſaw quhat wiſe
All his Nauie greit hounger did ſupprile.
How he in Italie finallie with greit pyne
Arryuit at the ſtrandis of Lauyne,
And how he faucht weill baith on landis & ſeyis
And Turnus ſlew the King of Rutileis.

¶Rome ſaw I beildit firſt be Romulus,
And eik how lang as wrytes Liuius
The Romane Kingis abone the pepill rang
And how the wickit proud Tarquinius
With wife and barnis be Brutus Junius,
War exylit Rome for thair Inſufferabill wrang,
Bot all the proces for to ſchaw war lang
How chaiſt Lucrece the gudlieſt and beſt
Be Sextus Tarquine was cruellie oppreſt.

¶The Punik battellis in that Mirrour cleir
Betwene Carthage and Romanis mony zeir,
I ſaw becaus Eneas pieteous
Fled fra Dido be admonitiounis ſeir
Betwene thir pepill rais ane langſum weir.
I ſaw how worthie Marcus Regulus
Maiſt vailzeand, prudent, and victorious,
Howbeit he micht at libertie gone fre
For commoun profite cheiſit for to die.

¶Tullus Seruilius douchtie in his daw,
And Marcus Curtius eik in the Mirrour I ſaw
Quhilk throw his ſtoutnes in the fyrie gap
For commoun profite of Rome him ſelf did thraw
Richt vnabaiſitlie hauand na dreid nor aw
Mountit on hors, vnarmit thairin lap.
And Hanniball I ſaw be fatall hap
Win contrair Romanis mony fair victorie
Quhill Scipio eclipſit all his glorie.

¶This worthi Scipio cleipit Aphricane
I ſaw vincus this Hanniball in plane,

And

And Carthage bꝛing vnto finall ruine.
And ſine to Rome cõquerit the Realme of Spane
How King Jugurtha hes his bꝛether ſlane.
Thair ſaw I eik, and of his weir the fine
Richt weill I ſaw the battellis Inteſtine
Of Catilina, and of Lentulus
And betwene Pompey, and Ceſar Julius.

¶And bꝛeiflie euerie famous douchtie deid,
That men in ſtoꝛie may ſe oꝛ Chꝛonikill reid
I micht behald in that Mirrour exprес
The miſerie, the crueltie, the dꝛeid,
Pane, ſoꝛrow, wo, baith wꝛetchitnes and neid
The greit Inuy, couetous dowbilnes.
Tuitchand warldlie vnfaithfull bꝛukilnes.
I ſaw the Feind faſt folkis to vices tyſt
And all the cũming of the Antechꝛiſt.

¶Pleſand debaitmentis quha ſa richt repoꝛtis
Thair micht be ſene, and all maner diſpoꝛtis,
The Falcounis foꝛ the Riuer at thair gait
Newand the foullis in periculo mortis,
Layand thame in be companeis and ſoꝛtis,
And at the plunge part ſaw I handillit hait
The werie Hunter beſie air and lait
With queſting Houndis ſeirching to and fra
To hunt the Hart, the Bair, the Da, the Ra.

¶I ſaw Raf Coilzear with his thꝛawin bꝛow
Craibit Johne the Reif, & auld Cowkewpis ſow
And how the Wꝛan come out of Aillay,
And Peirs plewmã that maid his woꝛkmen low

Gzeit Gowmakmorne & Fyn Makcoull, & how
Thay ſuld be Goddis in Ireland as thay ſay
Thair ſaw I Waitland vpon auld beird gray,
Robene Hude, and Gilbert with the quhite hand
How Hay of Nauchtoun flew in Wadin land.

¶The Nigromanſie thair ſaw I eik anone
Of Benytas, Bongo, and Freir Bacone,
With mony ſubtill point of Juglary
Of Flanders peis maid mony pzecious ſtone.
Ane greit laid ſadill of a ſiching bone,
Of ane Nutemug thay maid a Wonk in hy
Ane Parochie Kirk of ane penny py.
And Benytas of ane Wuſſill maid ane Aip
With mony vther ſubtill mow and Jaip.

¶And ſchoztlie to declair the veritie
All pleſand paſtance, and gammis that micht be
In that Mirrour war pzeſent to my ſicht,
And as I wonderit on that greit farlie
Uenus at laſt in turning of hir Eye
Knew weill my face, and ſaid be Goddis micht
Ze bene welcum my pzeſonar to this hicht,
How paſſit thow (quod ſcho) this hiddeous deip?
Wadame (quod I) I not mair than ane ſcheip.

¶Na fozce thairof (ſaid ſcho) ſen thow art heir
How pleſis the our paſtance and effeir?
Glaidlie (quod ſcho) Wadame be God of heuin.
Rememberis thow (ſaid ſcho) withouttin weir
On thy pzomit, quhen of thy greit dangeir
I the deliuerit? as now is not to neuin,

Than

Than anſwerit I agane with ſober ſteuin,
Madame zour prꝛecept quhat ſa be zour will
Heir I remane all reddy to fulfill.

¶Weill, weill, (ſaid ſcho) thy will is ſufficent
Of thy bowſum anſwer I ſtand content,
Than ſuddanelie in hand ane buik ſcho hint
The quhilk to me betaucht ſcho oꝛ I went.
Commandand me to be obedient,
And put in Ryme that prꝛoces than quite tint
I prꝛomiſit hir forſuith oꝛ ſcho wald ſtint
The buik reſſauand, thairon my cure to prꝛeif
Inclinand ſine, lawlie I tuik my leif.

¶Tuitchand this buik perauenture ze ſall heir
Sum time efter, quhen I haue mair laſeir,
My Nimphe in haiſt ſcho hint me be the hand
And as we ſamyn walkit furth in feir
I the declair (quod ſcho) zone Mirrour cleir
The quhilk thow ſaw befoir Dame Uenus ſtand
Signifyis na thing ellis to vnderſtand
Bot the greit bewtie of thir Ladyis facis
Quhairin louers thinks thay behald all graces.

¶Scho me conuoyit finallie to tell
With greit pleſance ſtraicht to the riche Caſtell,
Quhair mony ſaw I prꝛeis to get Ingres.
Thair ſaw I Sinon and Achitophell
Prꝛeiſſand to clim the wallis, and how thay fell.
Lucius Catiline ſaw I thair exprꝛes
In at ane windo prꝛeis till haue entres,
Bot ſuddanelie Tullius come with ane buik

And ſtraik him doū quhill all his chaftis quoik.

¶Faſt climmand vp thay luſtie wallis of ſtone
I ſaw Jugurtha and treſſonabill Tryphone,
Bot thay na grippis thair micht hald for ſlidder.
Preiſſand to clim ſtude thouſandis mony one
And to the ground thay fallin euerie one.
Than on the wall ane Garitour I conſidder
Proclamand loud that did thair hartis ſwidder
Out on falſheid the Mother of euerie vice
Away Inuy and birnand couetice.

That Garitour tho, my Nimphe vnto me tald
Was cleipit Lawtie, keipar of that Hald
Of hie Honour, and thay pepill outſchet,
Swa preiſſand thame to clim quhylum war bald
Richt vertcous, zoung, bot fra time yai wor ald
Fra Honour haill on vice thair minde is ſet,
Now ſall thow go (quod ſcho) ſtraicht to the zet
Of this Palice, and enter but offence,
For the Portar is cleipit Patience.

¶The michtie Prince, the greiteſt Empreour
Of zone Palice (quod ſcho) hecht hie Honour
Quhome to dois ſerue mony traiſt Officair
For Cheritie of gudlines the flour
Is Maiſter houſhald in zone Criſtall Towr.
Firme Conſtance is the Kingis Secretair
And Liberalitie hecht his Theſaurair,
Innocence and Deuotioun as effeiris
Bene Clerkis of Cloſet and Cubiculairis.

¶This

¶This Comptrollar is cleipit Diſcretioun,
Humanitie and trew Relatioun
Bene Iſcharis of his Chalmer mozne and ewin
Peice, quiet reſt, oft walkis vp and doun
Intill his Hall, as Marſchellis of Renoun.
Temperance is Cuik, his meit to taiſt and preif
Humilitie Carwer, that na wicht liſt to greif,
His Maiſter Sewar hecht Uertcous diſcipline
Mercie is Copper, and mixis weill his wine.

¶This Chancelair is cleipit Conſcience
Quhilk noz na meid will pzonounce fals ſentence
Uith him ar Aſſeſſouris four of ane aſſent,
Science, Prudence, Juſtice, Sapience
Quhilks to na wicht liſtin commit offence,
The Chekker Rollis and the Kingis rent
As Auditouris, thay ouirſe quhat is ſpent,
Laubozous diligence, Gude warkis, Clene leuing
Bene Dutſtewartis, and Catouris to zone King.

Gude hope remanis euer amang zone ſozt
Ane fine Menſtraill, with mony mow and ſpozt,
And Pietie is the Kingis Almoſeir,
Sine Fozтitude the richt quha liſt repozt
Is Lieutenand all wzetchis to comfozt
The Kingis Minzeoun roundand in his Eir
Hecht Uerite, did neuer leill man deir,
And ſchozтlie euerie vertew and Pleſance
Is ſubiect to zone Kingis obeyſance.

¶Cum on (ſaid ſcho) this ozdinance to veſite.
Than paſt we to that Criſtall Palice quhite

Quhair I abaid the entrie to behold
I had na mair of pleſance nor delite
Of luſtie ſicht, of Joy and blis perfite
Nor mair weilfair to haue abone the mold
Than for to ſe that zet of birneiſt gold,
Quhairon thair was maiſt curiouſlie Ingraue
All naturall thingis men may in eird conſaue.

¶Thair was the eirth enuironit with the ſey,
Quhairon the ſchippis ſailland micht I ſe,
The Air, the Fire, all the four Elementis,
The Spheiris ſeuin, and Primum mobile
The Signes twelf perfitelie euerie gre,
The Zodiak haill, as buikis repreſentis,
The Pole Antartick, that euer him ſelf abſentis,
The Pole Artick, and eik the Vrſis twane,
The ſeuin Starnis, Phaton and the Charlewane.

¶Thair was Ingraue how that Ganamedes
Was reft till heuin, as men in Ouide reidis,
And vnto Juppiter maid his cheif Butlair.
The douchteris fair into thair luſtie weidis
Of Dryada, amid the ſey but dreidis,
Swymmand, and part war figurit thair
Upon ane Craig dryand thair zallow hair.
With facis not vnlike, for quha thame ſeing
Micht weill conſidder that thay all ſiſters being.

¶Of Planetis all the coniunctiounis
Thair Epiſtillis and oppoſitiounis
War portrait thair, & how thair courſis ſwagis
Thair naturall, and daylie motiounis,

Eclipſis,

Eclipſis, aſpectis and digreſſiounis.
Thair ſaw I, and mony gudlie perſonages
Quhilks ſemit all luſtie quick Images,
The warkmanſchip exceding mony fold
The precious mater thocht it was fyneſt gold.

¶Wonderand heiron agane my will but let
My Nimphe in greif ſchot me in at the zet,
Quhat deuill (ſaid ſcho) hes thow nocht ellis ado
Bot all thy wit and fantaſie to ſet
On ſic doting, and tho for feir I ſwet.
Of hir langage, bot than anone (ſaid ſcho)
Liſt thow ſe farleis, behald thame zonder lo
Zit ſtudie nocht ouir mekill a dreid thow varie,
For I perſaue the halflingis in ane Farie.

¶Within that Palice ſone I gat ane ſicht
Quhair walkand went full mony worthie wicht
Amid the cloiſ, with all mirthis to waill,
For like Phebus with fyrie bemis bricht
The wallis ſchane, caſtand ſa greit ane licht
It ſemit like the heuin Imperiall,
And as the Ceder ſurmountis the Rammall
In perfite hicht, ſa of that Court a glance
Exceidis far all eirdlie vane pleſance.

¶For lois of ſicht conſidder micht I nocht
How perfitelie the riche wallis war wrocht
Swa the reflex of Chriſtall ſtanis ſchone
For brichtnes ſcarſlie blenk thairon I mocht.
The purifyit ſiluer ſurelie as me thocht
In fleid of Symont was ouir all that wone,

Zit round about full mony ane Veriall ſtone,
And thame coniunctlie Jonit faſt and quemit
The Cloiſ was pachit with ſiluer as it ſemit.

¶The durris and the windois all war bꝛeddit
With maſſie gold, quhairof the fynes ſcheddit
With birneiſt Euir baith Palace and Towꝛis
War theikit weill, maiſt craftelie that cled it,
For ſa the quhitlie blanſchit bone ouir ſpꝛed it
Vidlit with gold anamalit all colouris
Impoꝛturait of birdis and ſweit flouris,
Curious knottis, and mony hie deuiſe
Quhilks to behald war perfite Paradiſe.

¶And to pꝛoceid my Nimphe and I furth went
Straicht to the Hall thꝛowout the Palice gent,
And ten ſtages of Topas did aſcend
Schute was the dure, in at a boir I blent
Quhair I beheld the glaideſt repꝛeſent,
That euer in eirth I wꝛetchit Catiue kend
Vꝛeiflie this pꝛoces to conclude and end
Me thocht the flure was all of Amatiſt,
Bot quhairof war the wallis I not wist.

¶The multitude of precious ſtanis ſeir
Thairon ſa ſchane my febill ſicht but weir,
Vicht not behald thair verteous gudlines
Foꝛ all the Ruif as did to me appeir
Hang full of pleſand lowpit Sapheiris cleir
Of Dyamontis and Rubeis as I ges
War all the buirdis maid of maiſt riches,
Of Sardanis of Jaſp and Smaragdane

Traiſtis,

Traiſtis, Formis, and benkis war poleiſt plane.

¶Baith to and fro amid the Hall thay went
Royall Princes in plait and Armouris quent
Of birneiſt gold couchit with precious ſtanis,
Enthronit ſat ane God Omnipotent
On quhais glorious viſage as I blent
In extalie be his brichtnes atanis
He ſmote me doun, and briſſit all my banis,
Thair lay I ſtill in ſwoun with colour blancht
Quhill at the laſt my Nimphe vp hes me caucht.

¶Sine in greit pane, with womenting & cair
In hir armis ſcho bair me doun the ſtair
And in the Cloiſ full ſoftlie laid me doun,
Vpheld my heid to tak the hailſum air
For of my like ſcho ſtude in greit deſpair:
Be till awalk ay was that Lady boun
Quhill finallie out of that deidlie ſwoun
I ſwyith ouircome, and vp mine Ene did caſt
Be merie man (quod ſcho) the worſt is paſt.

¶Get vp (ſcho ſaid) for ſchame be na Cowart,
Wy heid in wed thow hes ane wyfes hart,
That for a pleſand ſicht was ſa miſmaid
Than all in anger vpon my feit I ſtart
And for hir wordis war ſa apirſmart
Unto the Nimphe I maid a buſteous braid.
Carling (quod I) quhat was zone that thow ſaide?
Soft zow (ſaid ſcho) thay ar not wiſe that ſtryfis
For kirkmen war ay gentill to thair wyfis.

¶I am richt glaid thow art wꝛthin ſa wicht
Lang eir me thocht yᵘ had nouther force noꝛ micht
Curage noꝛ will foꝛ till haue greuit ane Fla,
Quhat aillit the to fall (quod I) the ſicht
Of ȝone Goddes grim fyꝛie viſage bꝛicht
Duirſet my wit, and all my ſpꝛeitis ſwa
I micht not ſtand, bot was that ſuith, ȝa, ȝa.
Than ſaid the Nimphe richt merilie and leuch
Now I conſidder thy mad hart weill aneuch.

¶I will na mair (quod ſcho) the thus aſſay
Wlith ſic pleſance quhilk may thy ſpꝛeit affray,
Zit ſall thow ſe ſurelie ſen thow art heir
Wy Ladyis Court in thair gudlie array.
Foꝛ to behald thair mirth cum on thy way
Than hand in hand ſwyith went we furth in feir
At a Poſterne towart the fair Herbeir
In that paſſage full faſt at hir I franit
Quhat folk thay war within that Hall remanit.

¶Pone war (ſaid ſcho) quha ſa the richt diſcriues
Waiſt vailȝeand folk, and verteous in thair liues
Now in the Court of Honour thay remane
Uerteouſlie, and in all pleſance thꝛiues.
Foꝛ thay with ſpeir, with ſwoꝛds and ꝫ knives
In Juſt battell war fundin maiſt of mane
In thair pꝛomittis thay ſtude euer firme & plane
In thame aboundit woꝛſchip and lawtie
Illuminat with liberalitie.

¶Honour (quod ſcho) to this heuinlie King
Differris richt far fra warldlie gouerning,

Quhilk

Quhilk is but Pompe of eirdlie dignitie
Geuin for eſtait of blude, micht or ſic thing,
And in this countrie Prince, Prelate or King
Allanerlie ſall, for vertew honourit be,
For eirdlie gloir is nocht bot vanitie
That as we ſe ſa ſuddanelie will wend
Bot verteous Honour neuer mair ſall end.

¶ Behald (ſaid ſcho) and ſe this warldis glorie
Waiſt Inconſtant, maiſt ſlid and tranſitorie
Proſperitie in eird is bot a dreme
Or like as man war ſteppand ouir ane ſcoir,
Now is he law, that was ſa hie befoir,
And he quhylum was borne pure of his deme
Now his eſtait ſchynis like the Sone beme
Baith vp and doun, baith to and fra we ſe
This warld walteris as dois the wallie ſey.

¶ To Papis, Biſchoppis, Prelatis & Primaitis
Empreouris, Kingis, Princes, Poteſtatis,
Deith ſettis the terme, and end of all thair hicht
Fra thay be gane, let ſe quha on thame waitis.
Nathing remanis, bot fame of thair Eſtaitis,
And nocht ellis bot verteous warkis richt,
Sall with thame wend nouther thair Pompe nor micht
Ay vertew ringis in leſtand Honour cleir,
Remember than that vertew hes na peir.

¶ For vertew is a thing ſa precious
Quhairof the end is ſa delicious,
The warld can not conſidder quhat it is,
It makis folk perfite and glorious,

It makis Sanctis of pepill vitious.
It cauſis folk ay liue in leſtand blis.
It is the way to hie Honour I wis,
It dantis deith, and euerie vice throw micht
Without vertew, fy on all eirdlie wicht.

¶Uertew is eik the perfite ſicker way,
And nocht ellis till leſtand honour ay,
For mony hes ſene vitious pepill vphieit,
And efter ſone thair gloze vaniſche away
Quhairof exampillis we ſe this euerie day.
His eirdlie pompe is gone quhen that he deit
Than is he with na eirdlie freind ſuppleit
Saifand vertew, weillis him hes ſic a feir.
Now wil I ſchaw (quod ſcho) quhat folk bene heir.

¶The ſtrangeſt Sampſoun is into zone hald,
The fozeie puiſſant Hercules ſa bald,
The feirs Achill, and all the Nobillis nyne,
Scipio Affricane, Pompeius the ald.
Other mony quhais Namis befoir ar tald
With thouſandis ma than I may heir defyne.
And luſtie Ladyis amid thay Lozdis ſyne,
Semiramis, Thamar, Hippolita,
Penthefilea, Medea, Zenobia.

¶Of thy Regioun zonder bene honourit part,
The Kingis Gzegour, Kēneth, and King Robart
With vther ma that beis not heir reheirſit,
Waryit (quod ſcho) ay be thy megir hart.
Thow ſuld haue ſene had thow biddin in zone art
Quhat wiſe zone heuinlie companie conuerſit

Wa

Wa worth thy febill bzane ſa ſone was perſit
Thow micht haue ſene remanand quhair thow was
Ane iudge pepill puneiſt foz thair treſpas.

¶Quhilks be wilfull manifeſt Arrogance
Inuyous pzide pzetendit Ignorance,
Foull dowbilnes and diſſait vnamendit
Enfozcis thame thair ſelfis to auance
Be ſle falſheid, but lawtie oz conſtance
With ſubtelnes and ſlichtis now commendit
Betraiſand folk that neuer to thame offendit,
And vpheis thame ſelf thzow fraudefull lipps
Thocht God caus oft thair eirdlie gloir eclipps.

¶And Nobillis cũmin of honozabill Anceſtry,
Thair verteous Nobilitie ſettis nocht by
For diſhoneſt vnlefull warldlie wayis,
And thzow cozruptit couetous Inuy
Bot he that can be dowbill, nane is ſet by.
Diſſait is Wiſdome, Lawtie, Honour away is.
Richt few oz nane takis tent thairto thir dayis,
And thair greit wzangis to refozme but let
In Iudgement zone God was zonder ſet.

¶Remanand zonder thow micht haue hard beliue
Pzonouncit the greit ſentence diffinitiue,
Tuitchand this Actioun, and the dzeidfull pane
Execute on treſpaſſouris zit on liue:
Swa that thair malice ſall na mair pzeſcriue.
Madame (qu od I) foz Goddis ſaik turne agane,
My ſpzeit deſyzis to ſe thair tozment ſane.
(Quod ſcho) richt now thair ſall thow be reioiſit

Quhen thow hes tane the Air and better appoiſit.

¶Bot firſt thow ſall conſidder commoditeis
Of our garding, ſo full of luſtie treis,
All hie Cypres of flewer maiſt fragrant
Our Ladyis zonder biſſie as the beis,
The ſweit flureiſt flouris of Rethoreis,
Gadderis full faſt mony grene tender plant,
And with all pleſance pleneiſt is zone hant.
Quhair precious ſtanis on treis dois abound
In ſteid of frute chargeit with peirlis round.

¶Unto that gudelie garth thus we proceid,
Quhilk with a large Fowſie far on breid
Inueronit was, quhair Fiſches war anew,
All water Foullis war ſwemand thair gude ſpeid
Als out of growand treis thair ſaw I breid
Foullis that hingand be thair nebbis grew
Out ouir the ſtank, of mony diuers hew
Was laid ane tre, ouir quhilk behouit vs pas,
Bot I can not declair quhairof it was.

¶My Nimphe went ouir, chargead me follow faſt
Hir till obey my ſpreitis wor agaſt,
Sa perrellous was the paſſage till eſpy
Away ſcho went, and fra time ſcho was paſt
Upon the Brig I enterit at the laſt
Bot ſa my harnis trimblit beſily,
Quhill I fell ouir, and baith my feit ſlaid by
Out ouir the heid, into the ſtank adoun
Quhair as me thocht I was in point to droun.

¶Quhat

¶Quhat throw the birdis ſang and this affray
Out of my ſwoun I walknit quhair I lay
In the Garding quhair I firſt doun fell
About I blent, for richt cleir was the day
Bot all this luſtie pleſance was away.
Me thocht that fair Herbrie maiſt like to Hell
In till compair of this ze hard me tell,
Allace, allace, I thocht me than in pane
And langit ſair for to haue ſwemit agane.

¶The birdis ſang nor zit the merie flouris
Wicht not ameis my greuous greit dolouris,
All eirdlie thing me thocht barrane and vile.
Thus I remanit into the Garth twa houris
Curſand the feildis, with all the fair coluris.
That I awolk oft wariand the quhile
Alwayis my minde was on the luſtie Ile,
I purpoiſit euer till haue dwelt in that art
Of Rethorik cullouris till haue found ſum part.

¶And maiſt of all my curage was aggreuit,
Becaus ſa ſone I of my dreme eſcheuit,
Not ſcand how thay wretchis war torment
That Honour mankit and honeſtie miſcheuit.
Glaidlie I wald amid this wrak haue breuit.
Had I it ſene, how thay war ſlane or ſchent,
Bot fra I ſaw all this weilfair was went
Till mak ane end, ſittand vnder a tre
In laude of Honour I wrait thir verſis thre.

¶O hie Honour, ſweit heuinlie flour degeſt
Gem verteous, maiſt precious, gudlieſt,

For hie Honour thow art guerdoun conding.
Of worſchip kend, the glorious end and reſt:
But quhome in richt, na worthie wicht may leſt
Thy greit puiſſance may maiſt auance all thing
And powerall to mekill auaill ſone bring.
I the require, ſen thow but peir art beſt
That efter this in thy hie blis we ring.

¶Of grace, thy face, in euerie place, ſa ſchynis
That ſweit, all ſpreit, baith heid & feit Inclynis
Thy gloir, afoir, for till Imploir, remeid.
He docht, richt nocht, quhilk out of thocht, the tynis
Thy name, but blame, & royal fame diuine is
Thow port, at ſchort, of our comfort, and reid,
Till bring all thing, till glaiding efter deid.
All wicht but licht, of thy greit micht, ay crynis
O Schene, I mene, nane may ſuſtene, thy feid.

Hail rois, maiſt chois, til clois thy fois, greit micht
Haill ſtone, quhilk ſchone, vpon the throne of licht
Ueretew, quhais trew, ſweit dew, ouirthrew, al vice
Was ay, Ilk day, gar fay, the way of licht.
Amend, offend, and ſend, our end, ay richt,
Thow ſtant, ordant, as ſanct, of grant, maiſt wiſe
Till be, ſupplie, and the, hie gre, of price,
Delite, the tite, me quite, of lite, to dicht,
For I apply, ſchortlie, to thy deuiſe.

The Author directis his buik

to the richt Nobill and Illuſter Prince Iames
the Feird King of Scottis.

TRIVM-

TRIVMPHOVS laud with palme of victorie
The Lawrer Crowne of Infinite glorie
Maiſt gracious Prince, our ſouerane James the Feird
Thy Maieſtie mot haue Eternallie
Supreme Honour, Renoun of Cheualrie.
Felicitie perdurand in this eird,
With Eterne blis, in heuin by fatall weird
Reſſaue this Rouſtie rurall Rebaldrie
Laikand Cunning, fra thy pure leige vnleird.

¶Quhilk in the ſicht of thy Magnificence
Confidand in ſa greit beneuolence
Proponis thus my vulgair Ignorance
Maiſt humbillie with dew obedience,
Beſeikand oft thy michtie Excellence
Be grace to pardoun all ſic variance
With ſum bening reſpect of firme conſtance
Remittand my pretendit negligence
Thow quhais micht may humbill thing auãce.

¶Breif, buriall quair, of Eloquence all quite,
With ruſſet weid, and ſentence Imperfite
Till cum in plane, ſe that thow not pretend the,
Thy barrant termis, and thy vile Indite
Sall not be mine, I will not haue the wite,
For as for me I quit clame that I kend the
Thow art bot ſtouth, thift louis licht but lite
Not worth ane mite. pray Ilk man til amend the
Fair on with ſite, and on this wiſe I end the.

FINIS.


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